Published by order of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar.

Baroda Administration Report 1917-1918



BOMBAY
THE TIMES PRESS
1919

HUZUR CUTCHERY,
Baroda, 1*st February* 1919.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I have the honour to submit the Administration Report of the Baroda State for the year 1917-18.

The finances of the State continued to prosper, though the agricultural situation was somewhat marred by excessive rains.

The Great War continued to be the one dominating feature affecting the several departments of the administration. There was an abnormal rise in the prices of food-stuffs and other necessities of life; and large scarcity allowances had to be sanctioned for menials and subordinates in the lower grades of the service.

The War Conference at Delhi recommended ways and means of developing the general resources of the country and economising their use. In accordance with the policy there inaugurated, large bounties were promised to increase the culture of food-crops: and an embargo was levied on exports of articles, which the country did not grow, but had to import from outside for consumption in order to avoid cross traffic. The failure of the south-west monsoon, however, disconcerted all endeavours for the growth of food-crops; and the difficulties of transport, caused by the shortage of waggons, helped in sending up the prices, which remained much inflated during the year.

Resources of man power had to be exploited as much as resources of material in furtherance of the War. The recruiting campaign, commenced under enormous difficulties, with growing experience gave encouraging results; and the liberal concessions about cash annuities and other privileges, promised by Your Highness, succeeded in attracting a number of

men, that may not be regarded as inadequate for the province of Gujarat, which has little aptitude for supplying combatants with anything like warlike instincts.

The Great War has now ended; and with the establishment of peace, the task of the administration, though scarcely less difficult in view of the new problems which will demand careful handling, will, it is hoped, be productive of more appreciable and permanent results. Your Highness' programme of administrative reforms, of sanitation, water works and city drainage, of railway extensions, harbour improvements, the generation and utilisation of electric power and of industrial activity can now be taken up as a systematic working plan for the guidance of Your Highness' administration.

I have the honour to be,

Your Highness' most obedient servant,

MANUBHAI NANDSHANKAR,

Dewan.

CONTENTS.

Summary of the Administration Report for 1917-18.

1. The State of Baroda comprises an area of 8,182 square miles and is divided into four divisions. The total population according to the Census of 1911 was 20,32,798, of whom the majority are Hindus. More than fifty per cent. of the population is engaged in exploitation of the surface of the earth.

Area and Population

2. The administration is carried on by His Highness the Maharaja with the aid of the Minister and two Naib Dewans These three latter officers with one or two additional members form the Council.

Administration

3. The Legislative Council is composed of 26 members including the Minister, who is the President. The Council held two ordinary and one special sessions. In the special session two important questions were discussed: (1) How to increase the growth of food crops, and (2) What steps should be taken to promote recruiting for the British Army. During the ordinary sittings various important bills were discussed.

Legislative Council

4. The Huzur Nyaya Sabha is the highest tribunal in civil and criminal matters and is composed of the Legal Remembrancer, a Judge of the Varishtha Court not connected with the case and the Huzur Kamdar. This Bench disposed of a larger number of appeals than in the preceding year.

The Huzur Nyaya Sabha.

5. The Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat, consisting of the Huzur Kamdar, an Officer appointed by His Highness and one other member, is the highest appeal court in administrative matters.

Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat.

6. In the early part of the year, Their Highnesses stayed for about a month at Simla, having been the guests of His Excellency the Viceroy for four days at the Viceregal Lodge. After a halt of about a month in Baroda on their return, they had again to leave their capital on account of the virulence of the plague and were out for nearly four months, visiting Mysore for the Kheddah operations, Deolali for the benefit of their health, Ellora, Aurangabad and other places to see the noted archæological remains. At Bombay, visits were exchanged with various distinguished ladies and gentlemen, including the Right Honourable Mr. Montagu, the Secretary of State for India. His Highness presided at the Conference for the betterment of the Depressed Classes in Bombay. The summer was spent in Ootacamund and on his way back, His Highness paid a visit of condolence to His Highness the Maharaja of Kolhapur on the death of his second son. During the year was celebrated the marriage of Srimati Indumati Devi, the grand-daughter of His Highness with the heir-apparent of Kolhapur.

Movements of Their Highnesses.

7. The relations with the British Government and the neighbouring Indian States continued to be cordial and satisfactory. Various reciprocal arrangements were arrived at in regard to service of non-compulsory civil processes and other matters. Our representatives were sent to Delhi to discuss questions of agricultural development and measures for realisation from insolvent debtors of assets in Native States. Several officers of Baroda were deputed to the United Provinces, Madras, the Punjab, Mysore, and other places to study various problems and every one of them was treated with courtesy and given the requisite facilities. The State Controller of Prices was recognised as the Director of Civil Supplies to secure transport facilities for food-stuffs, Coal, etc.

Foreign relations

War Conference and War problems.

8. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb attended the War Conference at Delhi in April 1918 and sent his representatives to the one held in Bombay. "Our Day" was celebrated on the 12th December, 1917, and besides His Highness' contribution of Rs. 40,000, the public raised funds to the extent of over a quarter of a lakh. In addition to the contributions mentioned in previous reports, rupees five lakhs were given by His Highness' Government to the "War Gift Fund," fifteen lakhs were allocated for the purchase of a fleet of Ford Transport Vans and Second War Loan Bonds were purchased to the extent of rupees thirty lakhs. The Jaya Mahal Palace, Bombay, continued to be used as Hospital for officers.

Recruiting.

9. Several liberal and special concessions, over and above those granted by the British Government, were afforded by His Highness for his subjects getting themselves enlisted as recruits: bonuses and supplementary maintenance allowances were sanctioned; a certain proportion of land revenue arrears was ordered to be written off in the case of Waghers; grants of rent-free land were notified, etc. The State supplied 1,417 recruits as a result of these concessions. The only unfortunate incident relating to the recruiting work was a disturbance in the city of Baroda on 7th October, 1917, as a result of some misunderstanding and misguided impression that recruits were secured by force. The real intentions were explained to the people and order was promptly restored.

Visitors.

10. Among distinguished visitors to Baroda may be mentioned Their Highnesses the Maharaja of Kolhapur and the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar and the Nawab of Sachin.

Honours.

11. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb was graciously pleased to bestow on Mr. Vanikar, the Naib Dewan, a gold medal of the *Arunaditya* order and on Mr. Datar, the

Accountant-General and Rao Bahadur G. H. Desai, the Joint Sir Suba, gold medals of the *Raj Ratna* order in consideration of their long and meritorious services. In like manner were the public spirited acts of charity and philanthropy recognised in the case of Messrs. Ratanji Tata, Tulsibhai Bakorbhai and Vithaldas Chaturbhuj by suitable medals and titles. Sardar Narsingrao Raje Ghorpade, Amir-ul-Umrao, was presented with a gold anklet and the State Jeweller, Mr. Lalbhai Kallianbhai, was conferred the privilege of 'Chhatri Mashal.'

The army.

12. The actual strength of the army was less than in the previous year. The cost of maintaining it was Rs. 17·35 lakhs as against 19·14, the average monthly cost per effective unit being Rs. 27. The salaries of commissioned and non-commissioned officers and of the rank and file were revised and improved.

Legislation.

13. There were published 17 acts and 33 sets of rules; there were besides 7 important bills published, on which criticism was invited from the public. All the acts and rules were amending measures except one act which related to regaining the custody of wife and the restitution of conjugal rights. To remove the existing misunderstanding, an explanation was added in the Civil Procedure Code to the effect that civil courts are not debarred from entertaining suits involving caste questions.

Infant Marriage Act

14. The number of applications for exemption from the Infant Marriage Prevention Act showed a very considerable fall with a larger percentage of rejections. Offences against the Act were also fewer as compared with the previous year.

Civil Cases.

15. Both the file and disposal of civil suits and of *darkhasts* were smaller. As in the last year, money matters in regard to ordinary suits, and contracts in regard to small causes constituted the largest number of cases. The duration in all these matters was longer than in the last year, the plague apparently being largely responsible both for the smaller file and longer duration. The *darkhasts* were in a larger number of cases satisfied by payment of money. The civil appeal file was on the increase but the disposal was unfortunately smaller.

Village Munsiffs and Conciliators.

16. The Village Munsiffs had a smaller file before them and they disposed of all the cases. The file before the conciliators was likewise lighter. Conciliation seems to be preferred by litigants only when they have no ordinary civil court within easy reach. To create greater confidence among the people, conciliators are now elected by the Panchayats.

Village Panchayats with Judicial powers

17. The number of Village Panchayats with judicial powers remained unchanged (89). They had a heavier file than in the previous year. The disposal was more in favour of the plaintiffs as in the past.

Possessory suits

18. The number of possessory suits was smaller with a proportionate disposal.

Criminal file.

19. The prevalence of plague was here again responsible for the decrease in the file of offences; the disposal was in proportion to the file. 55 per cent. of the offences were against person and property. The percentage of convictions was less than in the previous year. The number of accused persons, who were fined was smaller, while of those sentenced to imprisonment larger than in the year previous. The appeal file was lighter with 63 per cent. of confirmations.

Inamdars with Judicial powers.

20. There were 10 Inamdars, as in the last year, invested with criminal powers. Of these, only 6 did any work, disposing of 15 out of 18 cases.

Legal Practitioners.

21. The number of legal practitioners rose from 417 to 429, of whom 5 were barristers-at-law and 121 LL.B.'s

Income and expenditure

22. The total receipts from Civil and Criminal Courts were Rs. 3·62 lakhs, while the expenditure was 4·29 lakhs.

Police

23. There was hardly any change in the standing strength of the Police force; actual strength, however, further decreased by 145 places, the total number of vacancies being 585. The percentage of warlike classes in the force was 70 and of literate men 52. The number of punishments meted out was smaller, while the number of rewards was almost the same as in the last year. The number of offences reported to the Police showed a very small increase of 9 cases. The percentage of the value of property recovered was 22·7 as against 19·6. False cases increased by 6 per cent. and undetected offences by 1 per cent. As securities in bad livelihood cases were indiscriminately accepted, it was laid down that the police should be consulted about the fitness of the securities offered so that the object of such securities may be adequately fulfilled.

Prisons.

24. The number of jails and lock-ups continued unchanged. The number of jail admissions again fell by 375, as a result no doubt of the smaller criminal file. 15·8 per cent. of the convicts were literate. Most of the convicts were charged with offences of theft, burglary, and hurt. The average cost per prisoner was Rs. 133 as against Rs. 120.

Registration.

25. The number of documents registered fell by 2,825 with the result that the receipts also showed a shrinkage. The expenditure however increased as the revised salaries came into full operation during the year. As in the previous year, mortgages and sales of immoveable property formed 90 per cent. of the total number of documents registered.

Joint Stock companies and Benevolent Societies.

26. Three new companies were registered and one was closed thus showing a net increase of 2. Four companies were sent into liquidation. The returns were in most cases received in time. Two new benevolent societies were registered bringing the total to 16; of these as many as 9 were caste-institutions regulating social customs.

Wards

27. There were 87 wards under Government management when the year commenced and 74 when it closed. Their properties amounted to Rs. 14·4 lakhs with an annual income of Rs. 1·31 lakhs. Arrangements were carefully made for the education of the wards and the management of their properties.

Ecclesiastical Department.

28. This Department, as mentioned last year, looked after the temples, regulated charities and public charitable trusts, supervised Sanskrit Pathashalas, the Purohits' class and religious education in general. The number of institutions under Government management was 44 as in the last year with an expenditure of Rs. ·67 lakh. The properties of these institutions were valued at Rs. 18·91 lakhs. Their extraordinary expenditure is met from the Reserve Fund, to which all contribute rateably; while another fund called the General Fund, made up of their net savings, is devoted to religious and charitable objects of public utility such as dispensaries, maternity relief, orphanages, etc. Religious and charitable institutions managed by private individuals are under the

general supervision of the State. In addition to the seven itinerant preachers engaged last year for explaining social and religious questions to the villagers on liberal and advanced lines, three more places were sanctioned during the year.

Price control.

29. As a result of the recommendations of the committee appointed in November 1917 to inquire into the permanent and temporary causes of the increased prices of foodstuffs, a Controller was appointed to keep the prices of foodstuffs as near as possible to the cost level and a scarcity allowance of Rs. 2 per mensem was given to all servants drawing Rs. 30 and under. A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs was placed at the disposal of the Controller for encouraging imports in the form of loans to merchants and grain shop associations. Owing to the shortage of home production and difficulties of transport, special measures had to be adopted for encouraging indigenous production and a sum of Rs. 1 lakh was sanctioned as bounties to Village Panchayats in proportion to the increased acreage under foodstuffs. Cultivation of foodstuffs was freely allowed on all Government waste lands on payment of only half the assessment without any fines. Provision was made for liberal advances of Taccavi for wheat cultivation, etc. At the same time, while recognising the need of cheap grain shops, Government felt that that work could be conveniently left to private agencies, and in order to encourage them a sum of Rs. 25,000 was earmarked for wiping out the losses of such shops. Generous private gifts of money were also received from Her Highness the Maharani Saheb and several other gentlemen for the support of these shops. While the policy of universal embargo was avoided as far as possible as being repugnant to the traditions of the State, it was considered necessary to impose restrictions on export of certain commodities in a few places, where the conditions were peculiarly distressing. Kerosene oil difficulty in Baroda city was very much alleviated through the voluntary co-operation of the agent of the Asiatic Petroleum Company. Later, other

companies opened their shops in Baroda and several mofussil towns. Effective arrangements were made for requisite supplies of petrol and salt periodically, which were sold to the people at prices fixed by the Controller. About the end of the official year, the Controller was recognised by the Government of India as the Director of Civil Supplies for Baroda with the result that the control could be more effectively exercised over imports and prices of foodstuffs.

Finance.

30. The notable changes in the working of this department were the adoption of the pre-audit system in the city of Baroda, amalgamation of the Military audit branch with pre-audit and the abolition of the Huzur Treasury office. Thus there were 9 branches in the Department instead of 10. Statements of estimated receipts and expenditure are received by the Accountant-General who submits them to Government after scrutiny. The receipts amounted to two crores and a little less than 3 lakhs showing an increase of about Rs. ·75 lakh over last year. The expenditure was one crore and eighty-nine lakhs against one crore and fifty-five lakhs of the previous year. The financial position of the State was stronger this year by 14 lakhs as compared with the last year, while the reserve in the form of liquid assets (Government paper) was augmented by about 20 lakhs. The State has also been investing large sums of money on reproductive works like railways and irrigation, but it is the railways alone that have yielded decent returns.

Land Revenue

31. The rainfall was much heavier than in the preceding year and the decennial average with the result that the crops were to some extent damaged. The realisation of current and past arrears was nevertheless very satisfactory. The notable feature was that coercive measures were employed on a very much smaller scale than in the last year; even the issue of notices declined by 3,000. More land remained under cultiva-

tion during the year. Local Cess and Income-tax showed an increase both in demand and collection

Attached Estates.

32 The year closed with 291 estates under attachment as against 344. Of these, the largest number was under the Guardian and Wards Act. With the fall in the number of estates, there was also a fall in the demand and the collection; but the percentage of collections was almost as good as the year before.

Compensation

33. The special compensation establishment maintained in the Baroda district was partially reduced and the work transferred to the divisional Naib Subhas as in other districts. 2,144 cases of compensation for land, measuring 4,280 bighas were disposed of. The awards consisted of Rs. 1,34,455 in cash, Rs. 54 in Kothali Santh and 686 bighas of land given in exchange; property other than land was compensated for to the value of Rs. 33,275.

Boundaries

34. There is nothing of special importance to be mentioned in this connection except that the verification of boundaries and other routine work was conducted satisfactorily. Representation has been made to the Government of India regarding the unfortunate reversal by the Bombay Government of the decision they gave in our favour in 1904 regarding the Monpur-Vala-Bhavanagar boundary case.

Railway Demarcations

35. As a result of the demarcation, 388 bighas were relinquished by the Railway Company and 649 agreed to be relinquished.

Abkari

36. The system of farming is what is known as the contract distilling and separate shop system except in Amreli, where the monopoly system prevails. The excise revenue amounted to Rs. 26·91 lakhs as against 22·69 lakhs, the

increase being due to the enhancement in duty rates and in tree tax for toddy and the larger out-turn ot the Alembic 'foreign' liquor. The number of shops which actually remained open was 1,104, showing an increase of 18; most of these were toddy shops. The number of offences detected and proved was again on the decrease.

Opium

37. As a result of the increased issue rate of opium, there was an increase of Rs. 1·20 lakhs in the opium revenue and yet the consumption was less by 1,800 pounds. The manufacture of opium is a State monopoly on the Bengal system. From about the close of the year, the practice of leasing shops to approved shop-keepers was abolished and the auction system was introduced, the limits of minimum and maximum selling prices being done away with.

Customs and Port dues

38. These brought in a revenue of 1·64 lakhs as against 1·33, as a result partly of the larger amount of excise duty realised on cotton goods and partly of the levy of export duty on various foreign articles exported from our ports. A coast-guard officer was appointed at the head of the Dwarka Look-out Station for purposes of watch during the war times.

Salt.

39. No improvement in revenue under this head can be expected so long as salt is allowed to run waste owing to the unnecessary prohibition on its export to any outside port in India. This question is however under correspondence with the Government of India. There was a decrease of Rs. 66 as compared with the last year.

Stamps

40. The increase in revenue from the sale of stamps was almost equal to the increase in expenditure on account of stamp.

41. Two inami villages were totally resumed, *Vadharo* was levied on one and *Vadharo* and settlement charged on another and two were continued intact. An annuity of Rs. 393 was given to the holder of one of the resumed villages. In the cash branch Rs. 50,854 were continued and Rs. 12,370 were disallowed, while allowances of an annual value of Rs. 30 were purchased. In the non-guaranteed Giras branch, Rs. 40 were continued and Rs. 38 disallowed Vatan claims to the extent of Rs. 7,262 were continued and to the extent of Rs. 408 disallowed. Six loans amounting to Rs 58,202 were advanced during the year. By way of perpetuating the ancient status of Shilledars, even those of them that got less than Rs. 50 per mensem continued to be looked upon as Shilledars instead of being as hitherto reduced to the status of Huzrat Paga swars. The operation of the mutation rules and the election by the Shilledars in two cases to have pension in lieu of nemnuks resulted in a gain of Rs. 812 per month.

Barkhali.

42. One more party connected with the classing work was disbanded during the year. Revision settlement reports of Kadi, Kalol and Vijapur were sanctioned. The survey parties conducted their work of measuring and classifying fields as also the work of city survey satisfactorily over the various parts of the State.

Survey and Settlement

43. The alienation inquiry into the guaranteed *Wanta and Giras* lands was still under progress. The right of the Baroda Government to impose local cess on Giras lands within their jurisdiction was again confirmed in the Palanpur Nawab's appeal. But the decision of the Government of India in the matter of our levying succession *nazarana* from the estate of Mandwa has unfortunately been adverse to our rights. The Resident's decision in the Rangpur appeal case was in our favour. Land to the extent of 140 bighas was either purchased,

Giras.

commuted for annual cash payment or otherwise divested of guarantee and cash Haks to the extent of about Rs. 184 were either purchased or struck off.

Self-governing bodies

44. The Local Boards, the Vishistha Panchayats (for notified areas) and the Municipalities, although self-governing are responsible to the Joint Sar Suba. The number of Taluka Boards increased by one owing to the constitution of a new board at Ratanpur and the Village Boards increased by 9 owing to the constitution of such boards in nine inami villages. The number of District Boards and Municipalities continued unchanged. The Municipalities of four places, the Taluka Boards of fifteen places, and several Vishistha Panchayats enjoyed the privilege of electing non-official vice-presidents. Owing to the unnecessary duplication of the engineering staff under the Local Boards and the Public Works and the difficulty on the part of the Panchayats to offer adequate inducement to the better trained men, it was thought necessary to amalgamate experimentally the subordinate staff in these two agencies so far as Baroda and Navsari were concerned. The Local Boards now attend to the construction of some minor works as Chowras, village schools, etc., on behalf of Government, for which the Public Works Department transfers the requisite budget to the Local Boards. Owing to the invariable nature of fixed charges which cannot be avoided, the Local Boards are unable to find adequate sums for the more important kinds of works. The Local Boards are, therefore, authorised to raise funds by imposing certain kinds of taxes with the previous sanction of Government. The question of revising the system of making allotments on more liberal lines was also under the consideration of Government. The income of the Local Boards was Rs. 13·21 lakhs as against 10·24, while the expenditure amounted to 9·74 lakhs as against 8·21. More attention has been paid to communications and public buildings than in the previous year. The Vishistha Panchayats were able to raise only Rs. ·33 lakh more than in the preceding year and

as a result of having paid better attention to works of public utility spent 15 thousand rupees more than in the previous year. The Municipalities show their income at 6·91 lakhs (1·03 less) and their expenditure at 11.15 lakhs as against 6·17. To this increased expenditure the Baroda City Municipality contributed very largely as it had a number of adjustments to make in its accounts with the City Improvement Trust. As a matter of fact, the City Municipality has kept its expenditure well under control owing to the prevailing high prices.

Agriculture

45. Out of the four agricultural stations, the one at Dwarka was closed during the year as there was no water in the tank from which it was intended to demonstrate irrigation. The Baroda Farm represents the conditions of the *goradu* soil. To rectify the unevenness and inequality between the 'comparing' plots in the experimental area of the Baroda Farm as a result of diversified tillage and manurial treatments, the programme of experiments was curtailed. Experiments were made with *katha*, *tamra* and Pusa varieties of wheat showing the advantage in favour of tamra. At the same time it was found that in *goradu* soil wheat even under best conditions could not pay as much as other crops. The manurial experiments in regard to tobacco confirmed the observations of last year in favour of green manure under certain conditions. The excess of magnesium salts in the water were successfully counteracted by the use of slaked lime on the sugarcane plot. Experiments with ratooning of *sundhia* to increase the production of fodder gave encouraging results. In spacing, the thick planting was again put to trial on a field scale. The experiments with *laho* and Waghad varieties of cotton at Jagudan showed encouraging results in favour of Waghad. The *charotar* variety of tobacco was given a further trial and confirmed the last year's results in its favour. The manurial trials at Jagudan resulted in favour of the combination of green manure and farm yard manure. A number of other experi-

ments were vitiated by excessive rainfall. Attempts are being made to determine the exact conditions under which the oil engine could be profitably worked on a farm. At Songhad the farm gave practical instructions to the students of the Dhanka School and 38 different kinds of crops were grown on the farm. To the four agricultural inspectors was added one sub-inspector for the Okhamandal Taluka. They lectured in 143 villages on the improved methods of agriculture. The main energy of the inspectors was however concentrated on two talukas of each district, where they moved from village to village and carried on seasonal demonstrations. A khedut (fieldman) has been appointed for pushing on the cultivation of irrigated crops near the Wadhwana tank; he has also succeeded in planting a large number of plantain trees, guavas, mangoes, and cocoanut palms The strength of the agricultural associations continued unchanged; Kadi and Navsari district associations gave substantial contributions to the 'village demonstrations' and helped in supplying good seed and improved implements to the cultivators. The District Boards of Kadi and Amreli continued their interest in agricultural improvements. In short, the work of district propaganda thrived well. The agricultural school transferred to Baroda had unfortunately to be closed on account of the paucity of students, who could not be attracted in spite of several handsome scholarships, as the only source of inducement to them was the prospect of service The entomologist continued his field demonstrations and delivered magic lantern lectures in 41 villages. The manufacture of certain implements in the Kala-Bhavan was pushed on as far as it was possible under the prevailing high prices of raw materials. 14 wells were successfully bored during the year.

Veterinary

46 One new dispensary was opened at Vyara, making a total of 7 in the whole State. Altogether 6,139 animals were treated in all these dispensaries. Enquiries conducted in regard to the

causes of cancer in the horn and calculus in the urethra trace them to the unsatisfactory condition of drinking water. As the facility of good water cannot all at once be supplied in every place, some antidotes were being attempted to counteract the injurious components of the water.

Industries.

47. A committee has been appointed to enquire into the economic condition of the people and the measures to be adopted for further development of the resources of the State. The question of the manufacture of woollen goods, the investigation of our forest resources and wood distillation and similar industrial problems have been taken up for enquiry. The year continued to be favourable for the existing industries which worked generally with profit. Some of the factories that have not been hitherto working or have been in liquidation were in the process of re organisation. The Gaekwar Sugar Factory has been leased and is expected to start the work shortly. Small (Mangalore) tile factories are gradually springing up in Gandevi and the manufacture of flooring tiles and terracotta has been undertaken in the same place by another concern. There is thus every prospect of Gandevi becoming a pottery district very soon. Infant industries were financed to the extent of Rs. 2,55,000. In spite of the high prices of loom accessories and the general apathy of the weaving classes to new methods, some new type machines, looms and dobbies were introduced. Mr. Hornell, the Marine Biologist of Madras, expressed his satisfaction with our fishery work and recommended it to be persevered with. But one of the two stations had to be discontinued for want of sufficient fishermen who were drawn away by the high freight they got for their boats owing to war. Immature window-pane oysters were relaid. With a view to locate new chank-beds, the inspection of the west coast of Okha was undertaken and will have to be continued for a year or two more to obtain correct results. The results of the geological surveys undertaken during the year showed

that we cannot expect large mineral deposits in Sankheda. Samples of different kinds of Motipura and Sunadra marble have been sent to merchants in Bombay to induce them to open the quarries on a large scale. With a view to foster infant industries, Government contemplate reserving to themselves the powers of exempting such concerns from *Jakat* levied by the local bodies on raw materials and compensating these bodies in special cases

Agricultural Banks

48. The number of these banks underwent no variation. The Bhadran and Vyara Banks maintained their prestige of good work and the error of over-caution in Bhadran was partially set right. The Bank at Amreli had larger deposits, and its business is now restricted only to co-operative societies, but the old loans to individuals are still unrecovered. The Songhad Bank was still in the process of re-organisation. Experience has shown that these banks are more useful for financing co-operative societies than individuals, except when they undertake large scale agricultural improvements; ordinarily it is the co-operative societies that ought to finance individuals

Boiler inspection

49. There were 182 factories using steam boilers as against 175. The income from fees, etc., was a little less than in the previous year, while the expenditure increased by over a thousand rupees. The Boiler Inspector worked also as Inspector of Factories. There were no prosecutions nor accidents.

Printing Press and Stationery.

50. The printing continued with the same contractor, who was given 60 per cent. increase over his contract rates on account of the high prices of paper. Owing to the fluctuation and high prices of stationery, all the offices were permitted to make their own arrangements in this behalf instead of arranging things through one central contract.

51. The efforts initiated last year to consolidate the existing societies were continued with the result that only 46 new societies were registered; with the cancellation of 12 hopelessly bad ones, the total number stood at 359 when the year closed. Naturally enough the membership rose, the working capital increased, the deposits were larger and the net profits were higher. The Baroda Central Bank continued to do very useful work with increased transactions as in the past. The Naosari Union advanced liberal loans to societies but could not get sufficient deposits, while the Kodinar Union showed greater activity in advancing loans and carrying on agricultural improvements. The new bank at Mehsana, however, was unable to cope with the demands of societies, which had therefore to seek aid from the Baroda Central Bank. The Agricultural Societies increased by 30. In general progress regarding credit societies, the Baroda District led the way, showing an increase of 10. In Kadi many weak societies were improved, but more substantial progress can be expected only when the Mehsana Bank is able to satisfy all the local requirements. The Naosari District, which has been slow at responding to the co-operative movement, has happily shown some progress by an increase of 7 societies and it can therefore be hoped that the talukas, still outside the scope of co-operative influence, will very soon come under it. In Amreli, Kodinar has been showing very good work, where old societies were carefully managed. There was no variation in the number of non-credit societies: one of them, however, has unfortunately come to a wrecking point on account of the high prices of oil and a mistake in selecting an unfavourable site for the pump and oil engine. The non-agricultural group rose from 31 to 35, most of them being credit societies. The Government Servants' Societies maintained their reputation for progressive work, while of the urban banks one or two were bad enough and may have soon to be closed. The Weavers' Societies increased by 3 and did good work, while the larger

Co operative societies.

demand for the formation of Chamars' societies could not be satisfied on account of the difficulty of getting men to keep accounts. The Co-operative Store at Baroda will probably have to be closed, while the milk store sufferred considerably on account of the scarcity of milk; nevertheless it carried on its business without loss. The co-operative training class was again held in the year under report and will hereafter be held every year. Honorary co-operative organisers have been recently appointed and they have justified their appointment by the good work they have done.

Forests

52. An important augmentation in the forest area was made by the addition of some lands round the Salher Fort. All save two forest ranges have been placed under regular working plans on the system of coppice with standards with a rotation of 40 years for the regenerating crop. The success, which attended the improvemental fellings in the last year, has justified its further continuance. The progress of the forest public works in the Naosari District unfortunately showed some slackness and some of the forest buildings were not completed. In the road projects, there was only one road yet to be taken up. The forest offences showed an increase; while forest conservancy was successfully carried out, although the total area traversed by fires was somewhat more than the year previous, as a result no doubt of the mischief caused by the roaming outlaws. Under sylviculture, may be mentioned the attempts to sow *sandal* seeds in the Sankheda and the Gir ranges and to introduce the Basra dates, bamboos and other varieties of valuable timber in Attarsumba. In this last range is also maintained a fairly large nursery for the rearing of plants. Fortified by the successful results already obtained, the sowing of Mowra seeds was taken up on a larger scale in view of the economic possibilities of that tree. But its successful germination is a matter of some doubt owing to the recent failure of rains. Revenue realisations from lac were smaller than

in the previous year, as the yield was affected by the ravages of black ants. The distillation of Rosha oil was carried out for the first time in the Nessu forest with some profit. The revenue from bamboo was exceptionally high owing to the unprecedented demand for it. Free grants of timber of the value of over Rs. 8,000 were made to the villagers living on the forest borders in the Naosari District. The financial results of the working of the department were again better, both the gross revenue and the net surplus showing a very satisfactory increase.

Public Works

53. One of the features of the year was the experimental measure of amalgamating the engineering subordinates of the Local Boards and the Public Works to avoid duplication of staff regarding minor works. Among important works completed may be mentioned, the Male Training College, a new block in the Lunatic Asylum at Baroda, the Dharmashala at Zankhvav and three Forest Rest Houses in the Naosari District, and as many as 8 village school-buildings. A large number of school-buildings is under construction at various places in the Raj. Owing to war conditions, a second Diesel engine could not yet be procured and the Electric Department was accordingly obliged to restrict further extention of the supply mains and connection of new loads to the system. All the State gardens meant for public recreation and those attached to the Palaces were satisfactorily maintained. The services of a hydraulic expert were engaged for a time for inspecting all the important irrigation works and suggesting measures to improve their utility and also for advising Government on the future irrigation policy of the State, as the works hitherto executed have not proved quite successful and remunerative. In regard to water works, deep boring was in progress in some places; at Visnagar two bores have yielded adequate supply of potable water and further development of the scheme was in hand. The expenditure of the Public Works Department amounted to Rs. 26·88 lakhs (out of a budget allotment of Rs. 37·18 lakhs) against Rs. 33·87 lakhs expended last year.

Railways.

54. During the year, 93·17 miles of railway were under construction, but no new lines were opened for traffic. The Samlaya-Timba line was completed when the year closed and was awaiting to be opened for traffic. The total expenditure on railways during the year amounted to Rs. 12·41 lakhs.

The City Improvement Trust

55. The total expenditure of the Improvement Trust amounted to Rs. 1·69 lakhs against Rs. 2·30 lakhs. Some new works of improvement were executed; the general programme of improvements in the City was approved of by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb.

Number of Educational Institutions and other features of working

56. The expenditure on education represented ·11 of the gross revenue of the State as against ·10 last year. The total number of educational institutions was 3,113 with 2,28,975 pupils in them showing a decrease of 86 institutions and 13,091 pupils as a result of the ravages of the plague and the partial failure of crops from excessive rainfall. These circumstances required the closure of some schools by way of relief, while in others exemptions had to be granted to the school children from attendance. Looking to the havoc caused by the plague the decrease must be considered very slight. With a view to improve the general tone, quality, and efficiency of instruction, the Department has been concentrating its efforts on a more effective inspection of village schools and has relieved the subordinate inspecting officers of much of the administrative work so that they can devote greater attention to the practical side of inspection. Sloyd classes have been attached to some primary and secondary schools in place of the old Manual Training classes. A series of courses in domestic science have been organised under an expert lady specially brought from America.

57. The number of English Institutions showed a slight nominal decrease owing to the amalgamation of two matriculation classes and the A. V. Schools into full fledged Government High Schools and the abolition of the Special Sloyd class. The College which teaches upto the M.A., maintained its prestige and scored about 57 per cent. of 'passes' at the University examinations. To the College are attached three Government hostel buildings and one rented, accommodating in all about 210 students. The net cost of educating a pupil at the College came to Rs. 157 as against Rs. 176 of the preceding year. Attached to the College is the Seminar for the Comparative Study of Religions. Under its auspices has been founded a series called "The Gaekwad Studies in Religion and Philosophy." There were 9 Government and 5 aided High Schools, 22 Government and 6 aided A. V. Schools, besides several other English teaching classes and unaided schools. Most of the Government High Schools have hostels attached to them and the students of 9 A. V. Schools are given residential facilities on grant-in-aid principles. The Prince's School, a special institution for the grand-children of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, showed satisfactory progress. The annual aggregate value of State scholarship for the College and secondary schools was Rs. 7,844 against Rs. 6,984 of the preceding year. In addition, there were the Khangi Scholarships founded by His Highness to the extent of Rs. 7,000. The interest of the Maratha Education Fund of Rs. 1·5 lakhs, also founded by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, was utilised in awarding scholarships to Maratha students.

English Education.

58. The primary schools showed a decrease of 83 and yet they alone absorbed Rs. 11·51 lakhs against Rs. 10·89 lakhs, giving an average of Rs. 479 per school as a result of the efforts to improve the quality and efficiency of instruction. The training colleges increased by two, while the number of

Vernacular Institutions.

other vernacular institutions remained unaltered. There were 2,18,573 pupils attending all these institutions, showing a decrease of 12,675 pupils as compared with last year. Reasons for this decline in the number of institutions and pupils have already been explained in para. 56 above. Compulsory fines from recalcitrant parents were collected to the extent of Rs. 83,279 and Rs. 10,762 were remitted.

Female education.

59. As to female education, although the number of institutions showed a slight increase, the number of students fell by about 6,000 owing to causes already explained. Besides ordinary subjects of study, some subjects of domestic science such as, needle-work, embroidery, drawing, cookery and music are offered to girls in the principal town schools, while in large village schools simple needle-work is taught. In addition to the one Government Zenana Class in Baroda, another unaided class was started at Petlad, both imparting instruction to 87 women in all. There has been a slow but steady increase in the number of women attracted to the teaching profession; all possible inducements of pay and prospects are held out to them to join the training college. A branch training college was maintained at Amreli.

Education of the backward classes.

60. There were in all 260 separate schools for Antyaja children. Attendance in these and other ordinary schools showed that 9 per cent. of the Antyaja population was receiving primary education. There were besides 64 Antyaja children receiving secondary and technical education. School requisites and books are given free to these students and liberal scholarships are made available to them. Eleven Antyaja scholars were reading for different courses in the training college at Baroda with other Hindus. The Garoda School (with 14 on the roll) taught Sanskrit to the priestly class of the Antyajas and initiated them into the proper performance of rituals. Four boarding schools are maintained for the education of the

forest tribes and every one of them had the full complement of students. The course of studies includes both practical and theoretical training in agriculture and carpentry. Some of these boys are also prosecuting English studies, while others have joined the training colleges and the rest are utilising their education in following their hereditary profession. The net average cost of educating each Kaliparaj pupil was Rs. 44. For the benefit of Mahomedans 135 Urdu Schools were maintained. The number of pupils attending these and other ordinary Gujarati Schools was equal to 11·4 per cent. of the total Mahomedan population.

Special Institutions.

61. Among special institutions may be mentioned the Orphanage at Amreli, the Music Schools, the Sanskrit Schools, the Deaf-Mute Schools, the Kindergarten classes, etc. The Orphanage at Amreli, which looks after orphans (52 during the year) and juvenile offenders (5 during the year), imparts to the inmates, in addition to primary education, some training in arts and crafts so as to enable them to earn a living in after life. There were 5 Music Schools as in the last year and 10 Sanskrit Schools (3 Government, 1 aided and 6 unaided). To foster the study of Sanskrit, a sum of Rs. 5,000 is set apart for being distributed annually in the shape of money prizes to successful candidates irrespective of caste or creed at the *Shravan Mas* examinations. The two Deaf-Mute institutions at Baroda and Mehsana (with an attendance of 27 and 23 respectively) were conducted by specially trained men. These schools provide instruction also in carpentry, drawing and tailoring, and recently hostels have been attached to them. Four men have been sent to Calcutta and Mysore to specialise in the art of teaching the blind. There were 6 Kindergarten classes well equipped with appliances calculated to rouse and develop the powers of observation in children. They were more largely attended than last year. Physical culture was supervised by a special itinerant instructor. The question of importing an expert physical instructor is still under consideration. Gould's books

on moral subjects and Professor Dhruv's "Nitishikshana" constitute the curriculum of moral instruction in the secondary and primary schools.

Technical Education.

62. A central technical institution called the Kala Bhavan, maintained at Baroda and intended for popularising and promoting polytechnical education among the masses, provides courses in six different subjects. Attached to it are the Workshops which, in addition to affording training in the use of engines and in smithy, carpentry etc., manufactured articles of furniture, metal and cast iron on a business scale The larger portion of the students (305 out of 372) were from outside attracted no doubt by the practical nature of the training, moderate fees and instruction through the vernacular. There are a certain number of scholarships endowed by Government and District Boards for being awarded to the students in the Kala Bhavan. Besides this there were two other Industrial Schools—one Government, at Amreli, and another aided at Naosari. To the Amreli school has been added a special class in primary education in order to impart it simultaneously with technical education. The Principal of the Kala Bhavan, Baroda, also controlled the Reformatory for juvenile offenders. The total expenditure on technical education including the Reformatory was Rs. 73,230.

Private donations for educational institutions

63. A sum of Rs. 18,000 was donated out of the charities of the late Sheth Naranbhai Keshavlal for a High School at Petlad, which has been named after the donor. A similar gift for a High School at Sojitra was made by Mr. Motibhai Mathurbhai. At Pattan, Sheth Ujam Singh has offered Rs. 15,000 for a hostel building.

The Museum.

64. The Museum continued to exercise its silent educative influence, having on the average 595 visitors per day. A fairly large collection of coins and placquets bearing the portraits of the past Rulers

of Baroda was acquired for the Museum and a number of pictures including European and Indian master-pieces and productions of old famous works was purchased for the Picture Gallery.

Libraries.

65. Libraries are an effective supplement to the scheme of free and compulsory education of the masses. There was an increase of 40 libraries in the year. Only five town libraries, whose buildings were under construction, had to be located in rented houses. The circulating libraries and the Visual Instruction Branch continued their work in their respective spheres. Two more publications were added to the Gaekwar's Oriental Series. The Library Department secured two gold medals at the Gwalior Industrial Exhibition; it had also the honour of being represented at the Congress of Librarians at Lahore.

Press Report

66. The Press Report Branch exercises censorship over the Baroda Press and keeps the Government informed of the views and criticisms of the local and foreign press in respect of the administration of the State. The out-put of the Baroda Press was 9 weeklies, 1 fortnightly, 22 periodicals and 191 books and pamphlets. Their tone was on the whole sane and loyal to both the Baroda and the British Governments. At the end of the year, 31 presses were actually working as against 28 of the preceding year showing an increase of 3.

Medical Relief.

67. The addition of a new permanent dispensary at Vaso increased the number of institutions to 60 with a ratio of 1 institution to 33,880 of the population. The total number of patients treated during the year shows a slight decrease, the average daily attendance of out-door and in-door patients being 4,717·87 and 277·25 respectively. This defect was compensated for by a larger number of operations with a mortality of 0·1 per cent. against 0·2 in the last year. Abdominal operations (other than those peculiar to women) numbered 155 with 6 deaths,

while obstetric operations were 120 with 3 deaths, of which 6 were for Cæsarean section with 1 death. The most common diseases consisted of malarial fever and those pertaining to the eyes, skin, ear, and the respiratory system. The Countess of Dufferin Hospital has been enlarged by new buildings with groups of wards such as military, maternity, infectious, &c., and the conglomeration of all these wards and buildings was given the appellation of the State General Hospital and the name of Countess of Dufferin has been appropriately retained for the new female wards, which will be located in the old Countess of Dufferin Hospital building. The Lunatic Asylum afforded shelter to 84 of these unfortunate beings against 89, while the Leper Asylum entertained 160 inmates against 169. The question of walling the latter institution has had to be postponed till after the war. The Chemical Analyser investigated 91 medico-legal cases against 108. The rate of mortality among the jail population was 14·5 against 5·4, the higher rate being due to plague An additional midwife was sanctioned for the Baroda City for two years. The total number of labour cases attended to by the city and the mofussil midwives was 416 against 462. A series of lectures on Ambulance, Nursing and Home Hygiene was delivered as in the last year by the various medical officers. Plague made its appearance in an unusually severe form, infecting 826 towns and villages and carrying away 22,239 souls. Special medical men were engaged for relief work and people were strongly persuaded to get themselves inoculated with the result that as many as 22,510 persons availed themselves of that operation. The expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 3·35 lakhs as against Rs. 3·15 lakhs.

Private donations for medical institutions.

68. Mention must be made of the generous donations of Rs. 1,25,000 from Sheth Nayalchand Lalluchand for a General Hospital at Pattan and of Rs. 50,000 from Sheth Bulakhidas Narandas for a Maternity Hospital at Petlad. Both these offers were thankfully accepted by Government and

another offer of Rs. 25,000 from Mr. Dossabhai Maganlal Parikh for a Maternity Home and Zenana Dispensary at Visnagar was under consideration of Government.

Vital Statistics, etc.

69. The sanitary department continued its supervision over vaccination, registration of births and deaths, and over sanitation. The Sanitary Commissioner inspected the Municipalities and the Vishishta Panchayats and suggestions for improvement were made to many of them. The number of births was 60,861, the rate per mille being 29·9 as against 30·9, while 81,188 persons died giving a rate of 40·0 against 26·7, the latter increase being principally due to the prevalence of plague. For every 100 female births, 113·5 male births were registered and for every 100 female deaths there were 102·7 male deaths. Compulsory vaccination, which was hitherto a tentative measure for the Baroda City, was made permanent. In the villages and other towns of the Raj, however, it continued to be carried on by persuasion. The number of persons vaccinated during the year shows a decrease, no doubt as a result of the prevalence of plague which compelled the people to evacuate their villages. A Central Sanitary Board was instituted with the Minister as President for discussing all important schemes of sanitation and public hygiene with powers of initiation and disposal in those matters.

Conclusion Problems of outstanding interest.

70. Several problems of outstanding interest await the consideration of Government and it is hoped an early solution of some of them will be arrived at before the next Administration Report is due. They consist of schemes—

(1) for the re-organisation of the Department of Sanitation and Public Health. It is proposed to make the Sanitary Department an effective and working department instead of being only an advisory one ;

(2) for Village Medical Relief so as to make the medical relief available to all villages within a radius of five miles round every dispensary or hospital ;

(3) for increasing Female Medical help by opening new Maternity Hospitals and Lying-in homes and by getting more midwives easily accessible to the female population, as well as for improvement of the nursing service ;

(4) for improving the quality of education by getting more trained teachers and bettering their prospects ;

(5) for extending female education ;

(6) for promoting the industrial and economic development of the country, by fostering new industries like the salt and alkali industries in Okhamandal, fisheries and pearl culture in Dwarka, wood distillation in the forests, cement factories in Okhamandal and Kodinar, cotton mills and leather factories as well as oilseed presses throughout the Raj ;

(7) for development of the resources of the country by consolidation of small and scattered agricultural holdings ; promoting intensive agriculture and helping agricultural demonstrations on the farms of cultivators ;

(8) for disseminating the co-operative movement and for the redemption of the heavy indebtedness of the agriculturists through co-operative credit associations ;

(9) for inquiries into the social and economic condition of the people and bringing the prices of foodstuffs, which have been steadily rising, under proper control ;

(10) for extension of railways into the outlying parts of the *Raj* so as to develop backward tracts and add to administrative convenience;

(11) for promoting Local Self-Government on a broad-bottomed basis by strengthening the units of Village Punchayats, improvement oftheir finances, fixing their functions and enlarging their franchise; and

(12) for improving the tone of the whole service by correct modes of recruitment, of training and of keeping them contented with their prospect in the State service.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

A.—The State of Baroda.

Territorial Divisions.

1. The State of Baroda comprises an area of 8,182 square miles. It is divided into four distinct blocks cut off from each other by intervening British territory. The southern district of Navsari lies near the mouth of the river Tapti and is interlaced with British territory. To the north of the Narbada river is the central district of Baroda containing the capital. Further up and to the north of Ahmedabad lies the district of Kadi with its historical towns of Pattan and Sidhpur and numerous archæological remains. Far to the west in Kathiawar lie tracts of land isolated and separated from each other, which comprise the district of Amreli.

Area and Population.

2. The area and the population of the four districts show considerable variation and are shown in the table below. The figures given are those of the Census of 1911 :—

Districts.	Area in square miles.	Population	Number of towns.	Number of villages.
Baroda .. .	1,898	6,86,900	16	921
Kadi	3,023	8,32,162	14	1,076
Navsari	1,914	3,35,467	6	762
Amreli	1,347	1,78,269	6	296
Total ..	8,182	20,32,798	42	3,055

Religious denominations.

3. Out of a total population of two millions and over, more than four-fifths, or 16,96,146, were Hindus. The Mahomedans numbered 1,60,137 or about one-thirteenth. Tribes of animistic faiths numbered 1,15,411. The Jains numbered 43,462, the Parsis numbered 7,955, and the Christians 7,293.

Municipalities, Vishishtha Panchayats and Village Boards.

4. During the year under report there were ten Municipalities and thirty-one Vishishtha Panchayats, which combine the functions of Village Boards with some of those of Municipalities. The number of Village Boards was 2,319 as against 2,310 for the last year.

Occupation of the people.

5. Occupationally, the population was classed in the Census of 1911 as under:—

1.	Exploitation of the surface of the earth	65 6	per cent.
2	Industry	12 3	"
3.	Transport	8	"
4.	Trade	6·4	"
5.	Public Force	1 3	"
6.	Public Administration	1 9	"
7.	Professions and liberal arts	3 7	"
8.	Persons living on their income	·4	"
9	Domestic service	·2	"
10.	Insufficiently described occupations	7 0	"
11.	Unproductive	·4	"

B.—The Central Administration.

(*a*) The Minister.

The Minister and the Naib Dewans.

6. Mr. Manubhai Nandshankar Mehta, M.A., LL.B., was Minister during the whole year. He carried on the administration with the assistance of two Naib Dewans—one for Judicial and another for Revenue and allied branches. Dewan Bahadur Ganpatrao Gaekwad, Bar.-at-law, and Mr. V. Y. Vanikar, M.A., held these positions respectively during the year.

7. The Minister, Mr. Manubhai, was invited to take part in the deliberations of the Committee of four Ruling Princes appointed by the rest of them to formulate a Scheme regarding the various questions connected with the Ruling Princes and Indian States with the view of presenting it for consideration of the Government of India at the time of coming to any decision regarding the nature of political reforms. He was accordingly present at all the Committee's sittings held at Bikanir, Alwar and Patiala.

The Minister's work in connection with the reforms.

Mr. V. D. Satghare, B.A., LL.B., and Mr. S. K. Nayampalli, B.A., LL.B., worked respectively as Secretary, Foreign Office, and Superintendent, Dewan's Office.

(*b*) THE COUNCIL.

8. As mentioned in the last report, the Secretary to the Council worked throughout the year under the control and supervision of the Dewan with a separate establishment of his own. Mr. Satya Vrat Mukerjee, B.A. (Oxon.), continued to be in charge of the Office during the whole year in addition to his special duties in the Dewan's Office.

Secretary to the Council.

9. At the end of the year the Constitution of the Council was made up of the Dewan as President, the Judicial Naib Dewan as the First Councillor, the Revenue Naib Dewan as the Second Councillor and from 1st September 1917 also of the Accountant-General, Mr. A. N. Datar, as the Third Councillor. Shrimant Dada Saheb Gaekwad and Shrimant Ganpatrao Vithalrao Gaekwad worked as extra Councillors for some time during the year under report.

Composition.

10. The Council had to deal with a greater volume of work than heretofore, although it held only 22 meetings including special ones, as against 24 in the previous year. The

Work.

total number of subjects considered was 1,297 against 1,187 of the last year. Of these 1,121 matters were disposed of, leaving a balance of 176 cases against 103 of the previous year. Of the matters disposed of, 981 cases were dealt with by the Council within its own powers and 140 were submitted to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb with its opinion. It may also be mentioned that 28 matters were referred to the Council by His Highness against 33 in the preceding year.

(c) THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Constitution.

11. The Legislative Council called the "Dhara Sabha" was composed of 26 members, including the Dewan who is the President. The details of the membership are as follows :—

The President	1
Ex-officio members	4
Official nominated members ..	6
Non-official nominated members ..	5
Elected	10
	26

Meetings of the Legislative Council

12. During the year, the Legislative Council held two ordinary and one special sessions. The first ordinary session, held on 29th November 1917, discussed a Bill for regaining the custody of one's wife and restitution of conjugal rights and passed it unanimously. At the same sitting, permission was granted to non-official members to introduce bills to amend the Land Revenue Code, the Municipal Act, the Village Local Board Rules and the Local Boards Act. In the second ordinary session, which was summoned on 21st March 1918, the Companies' Bill and the

Arbitration Bill were introduced by the Legal Remembrancer for discussion. The Council took a lively interest in the discussion of suggestions from the members and from the select committee on the Companies' Bill and passed both the bills unanimously. At this session also, permission was granted to non-official members to introduce bills to amend the Land Revenue Code and the Infant Marriage Prevention Act, and two original bills, *viz.*, the Village Protection Bill and the Old Age Marriage Prevention Bill.

The special session of the Dhara Sabha was summoned by order of His Highness the Maharaja to consider two important questions: (1) how to increase the growth of food crops and (2) what steps should be taken for recruiting men for the British Army for the defence of the country. In this session 9 extra members were invited in addition to the members of the Council to give their advice. These two questions of vital importance were discussed from all points of view and the Government had an opportunity to glean the opinion of the public regarding the measures to be adopted to meet the emergency.

(*d*) THE HUZUR NYAYA SABHA.

The Huzur Nyaya Sabha and its work

13. The Varishta Court is the highest tribunal in the State but the power of revising the decisions of that Court has been reserved to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb who is advised in the exercise of this power by a committee composed of not less than three members; the Legal Remembrancer, a Judge of the Varishta Court, not connected with the case under appeal and the Huzur Kamdar are usually members of this Committee. They hold their sessions four times in the year and generally continue to work till the cases ready for hearing are disposed of. They give a regular hearing to the parties concerned and tender their advice to His Highness who passes the final decision. The following statement shows the

work done by this appeal bench during the years 1916-17 and 1917-18 :—

Nature of cases.	Arrears of the last year.		New file.		Disposal during the year.		Pending at the end of the year	
	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Appeals —								
(a) Civil .. .	17	26	15	14	6	8	26	32
(b) Criminal . .	10	10	10	9	10	16	10	3
Extraordinary applications :—								
(a) Civil ..	18	21	19	18	16	33	21	6
(b) Criminal	28	9	18	32	37	38	9	3
	73	66	62	73	69	95	66	44

Out of the 32 civil appeals that remained pending at the end of the year, 20 were pending hearing and 12 were not ready for hearing owing to non-service of summons. Out of the 3 criminal appeals that remained pending, 1 was ready for hearing and 2 were pending opinion.

Of the 6 pending civil applications, orders were solicited regarding four and 2 were pending because the pleaders had applied for postponements. There were 3 criminal applications that were not disposed of, as the orders solicited in regard to them were not passed when the year closed.

(e) The Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat.

Bench for Departmental appeals

14. This Bench consisting of the Huzur Kamdar, an officer appointed by the Maharaja and one other member hears appeals against the decisions of the Heads of Departments in certain specified administrative matters.

The work done in the year.

15. There were 148 appeals in arrears at the beginning of the year and 230 new ones were filed during the year. Out of all these, 301

were disposed of, leaving a balance of 77 at the close of the year. Forty-four appeals were sent up to the Dewan with the opinion of the Bench for final disposal, of which 41 were disposed of by him. In 15 appeals, the opinion of the Bench was confirmed. Eleven appeals were submitted to the Huzur, of which 10 were disposed of, the Huzur having accepted the opinion of the Bench in all of them.

The Bench dealing with the appeals from the Subas was discontinued, as mentioned in previous years, and consequently no new appeals were received. There were, however, 4 old appeals pending at the beginning of the year and they were all disposed of.

(*f*) THE HUZUR KAMDAR.

Duties of the Huzur Kamdar.

16. Besides attending to the secretarial work of His Highness the Maharaja and obtaining his orders regarding official matters sent up to him, the Huzur Kamdar has to take part in certain special appellate functions: he is a member of the Huzur Nyaya Sabha and the Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat as mentioned above.

Huzur Kamdar.

17. Mr. W. B. Padgaokar, B.A, LL.B., continued in office as Huzur Kamdar for the whole year, while the assistant's place was held by Messrs. V. G. Pendse, B.A., and Jal A. D. Naoroji, B.A., Bar.-at-law, for varying periods of the year.

Special officers.

18. Messrs. L. G. Ghanekar and Maneklal S. Desai were attached to the Huzur Kamdar's office for short periods during the year on special duty with regard to inspection of Local Boards and disposal of appeals.

C.—The Palace.

Stay at Simla.

19. In the early part of the official year, Their Highnesses the Maharaja and the Maharani went to Simla and stayed there for a little over a

month for the benefit of their health. On this occasion, they were for four days the guests of His Excellency the Viceroy. On 20th October 1917 Their Highnesses returned to Baroda.

Visit to Mysore.

20. After about a month's stay in Baroda, Their Highnesses were again constrained to leave their Capital on account of the virulence of plague in Baroda and availed themselves of the invitation of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore to witness the *kheddah* operations there. After the elephant hunt was over, they proceeded to see the famous Gersoppa water falls and then returned to Bombay about the middle of December 1917.

Stay in Bombay.

21. The plague had not yet subsided in Baroda and Their Highnesses continued to stay in Bombay till the 22nd February 1918. In this city, Their Highnesses invited, and received visits from, various distinguished ladies and gentlemen, such as, the Right Honourable Mr. Montagu, Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon, H. E. Lord Pentland, H. E. H. The Nizam of Hyderabad, the Right Honourable Mr. Charles Roberts, M.P., Their Highnesses the Maharaja of Kolahpur, The Maha Rao of Kutch, the Begum Saheb of Bhopal and the Maharana and Maharani of Rajpipla and Mr. J. L. Maffey, I.C.S. Some of these visits could not unfortunately be returned owing to the ill-health of His Highness.

Owing to this circumstance also, Her Highness alone availed herself of the opportunity of attending the lectures and demonstrations of Sir J. C. Bose at the Royal Opera House.

Deolali, Ellora, etc.

22. About the third week of February, His Highness accompanied by Her Highness the Maharani left for Deolali under medical advice to recruit his health. From there they visited the holy places of Nasik and Trimbak and, after visiting the famous caves of Ellora and the forts of Khultabad and Aurangabad, returned to Bombay on the 19th of March. At Bombay, His Highness

presided at the Conference for the betterment of the depressed classes, for whose welfare he has always cherished a fond solicitude and returned to Baroda on the 24th of March.

Summer at Ootacamund.

23. Owing to the scorching heat of summer, however, Their Highnesses again left Baroda for Ooty after about 2 months. They were accompanied by Maharaj-Kumar Jaisinh Rao and his wife Shrimati Shakuntala Raje. At Ooty, visits were exchanged with Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Pentland, the Hon'ble Sir A. G. Cardew, the Hon'ble Mr. Gillman, The Hon'ble Dewan Bahadur Rajagopala Achariyar. There were also various other distinguished ladies and gentlemen who visited Their Highnesses, such as, Sir Stewart and Lady Fraser, His Highness the Yuvaraja of Mysore, Sir Vishweshvaraya, the Rani Saheb of Vijayanagar, Sardars Kantaraj Urs and Balaraj Urs, Mr. and Mrs. Madgaokar, Mr. R. H. Campbell and several others.

Kolhapur.

24. Leaving Ooty on 17th July, His Highness proceeded to Kolhapur to pay a visit of condolence to His Highness the Maharaja Shahu Chhatrapati of Kolhapur on the sad death of his second son. On his way, he paid a visit also to the Chief of Miraj who was lying ill.

Poona.

25. Their Highnesses then came to Poona and paid a casual visit to Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon and received visits from the Hon'ble Mr. Seddon and Sardars Appasaheb and Baba Saheb of Vantmuri. On the 31st of July Their Highnesses reached Baroda.

Marriage in the Royal Family and other domestic events.

26. On the 1st of April 1918 was celebrated the marriage of Shrimati Indumati Devi, the grand-daughter of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, with the heir-apparent of Kolhapur with great *eclat*, when a large number of distinguished ladies and gentlemen were invited.

On 1st December 1917 the wife of Maharaj-Kumar Shivaji Rao presented him with a daughter, who was named Nirmala Raje on 24th April 1918.

Distinguished visitors.

27. Of the distinguished personages, that visited Baroda during the year, mention may be made of Shrimant Pirajirao Bapusaheb, Chief of Kagal (Senior), His Highness the Jam Saheb of Nawanagar, the Nawab Saheb of Sachin and His Highness the Maharaja of Kolhapur, all of whom were accorded the usual honours.

Formal courtesies on occasions of social ceremonials.

28. The formal courtesies of presentation of "poshaks," etc, were extended to Shrimant Shambhusinghji Malegaokar on the occasion of his daughter's marriage, to Cambay on the occasion of the "Bismillah" ceremony of the minor Nawab Saheb and to Deogarh Baria on the occasion of the marriage of Kumar Shri Kiratsinghji's daughter. A deputation was sent with the "poshak" of condolence to Kolhapur, when the second son of His Highness the Maharaja of Kolhapur died suddenly as the result of an accident.

Birthday and New Year Honours, etc.

29. On 15th November 1917, Mr. V. Y. Vanikar, M.A., was decorated in the Durbar with a gold medal of the "Arunaditya" order for his long and meritorious record of service; similarly on 2nd April 1918, the 56th birth-day of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, B.A., LL.B., and on 12th April 1918 the Varsha Pratipada Mr. A. N. Datar, B.A., LL.B., were decorated with gold medals of the "Raj Ratna" order for their valuable services to Government. In like manner, Messrs. Ratanji Shapurji Tata of Navsari, Tulshibhai Bakorbhai of Bhadran and Vithaldas Chaturbhuj of Patan were honoured respectively with a gold medal of the "Datar" Mandal (order), the privilege of 'Chhatri Mashal' with the title of Amin, and a silver medal of "Datar" Mandal for their public spirited acts of charity and

philanthropy. On 12th April 1918, Sirdar Narsingrao Raje Ghorpade Amir-ul-Umrao was presented with a gold anklet and Mr. Lalbhai Kalyanbhai was conferred the privilege of "Chhatri Mashal" for his services as State jeweller.

D.—Relations with the British Government.

Foreign relations, etc.

30. The relations of His Highness' Government with the British Government and the neighbouring Native States were conducted by the Minister through the Political Office; and these relations continued to be cordial and satisfactory as in the past.

Arrangements relating to the mutual extradition of criminals and co-operation in police matters also continued to work satisfactorily as hitherto.

Postal arrangements

31. The British Postal authorities continued to receive the requisite facilities to enable them to provide additional post offices and letter-boxes in different parts of the State. The total number of post offices and letter-boxes was 995 (251+744) at the close of the official year, as against 991 (250+741) of the previous year. Hitherto, the previous permission of the Post Master General, Bombay, was necessary, whenever any official of the State was to be allowed to use service postage stamps and to post official correspondence over his frank at any of the post offices situated either within the State limits or outside in any part of India. During the year under report, however, the Government of India ruled that such previous permission of the postal authorities was not necessary and that all Native States which received free grants of Imperial Service Postage Stamps might authorize any of their servants in this respect.

Other miscellaneous arrangements, etc.

32. Recognizing the serious inconvenience caused to the public and to the States in Kathiawar, including the Kathiawar possessions of His Highness' Government, by the maintenance of the Land Customs line at Viramgam, the Government

of India were pleased, after much correspondence, to sanction the abolition of the same during the year.

At the suggestion of the Government of India, two State Officers, *viz.*, Messrs. Khaserao B. Jadhav and Madhavrao M. Sitole, were deputed to Delhi to discuss with the Government of India experts the questions of agricultural development, statistics and horse-breeding operations in Native States which were included in the agenda of the Conference of Ruling Princes and Chiefs held at Delhi on 5th November 1917.

The Government of India having requested His Highness' Government to nominate their representative on the Committee to discuss measures for the realization from insolvent debtors of assets in Native States, Rao Bahadur G. B. Ambegaoker, B.A., LL.B., was deputed for the purpose. The Committee assembled in the middle of December 1917 at Delhi and discussed the matter, but having regard to the views expressed by the majority of the members, the Government of India came to the conclusion that the Native States were not then prepared to consider any general scheme which might afford reciprocal protection in the matter.

The Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Bombay Presidency, having expressed his willingness to admit some officials on the State Agricultural and Co-operative departmental staffs to the training class in co-operation held by him at Poona, four officials were sent there. They received the necessary training and passed the prescribed examination.

A Conference of Mr. R. D. Banarji, Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Western Circle, Dr. V. Sukthankar, Assistant Superintendent, Western Circle, and Mr. J. C. Chatterji, State Dharmadhyaksha, was held at Baroda to discuss the subject of a preliminary Archæological Survey and the conservation of monuments of archæological interest in the State.

The services of Mr. R. Egerton Purves, C.I.E., Consulting Irrigation Engineer, were engaged for a couple of months during

the year to visit the several irrigation tanks in the State and to advise His Highness' Government as to their future irrigation policy and questions connected therewith.

The reciprocal arrangement arrived at in 1914-15 with the Indore Durbar, as a tentative measure for two years, regarding the free and direct service, between the Baroda Courts and those of the Indore Durbar, of processes of non-compulsory nature in civil and revenue cases and of summonses to witnesses in criminal cases, was made permanent during the year as it was found to have worked satisfactorily.

The Bhavnagar Durbar having expressed their unwillingness to adopt the reciprocal arrangement entered into in 1915-16 with the Cambay State and 38 other States and Talukas in the Kathiawar Agency regarding the service, free of charge, of non-compulsory civil processes and summonses issued by the State Courts, it was agreed on terms of reciprocity so far as that State was concerned, to adhere to the old practice of giving only verbal intimation of such processes and summonses to the persons concerned instead of effecting actual service on them.

A reciprocal arrangement was agreed upon with all the States in the Rewa Kantha Agency, except Balasinor, for taking action under Sections 87 and 88 of the Criminal Procedure Code with regard to absconding offenders in extradition cases.

A reciprocal arrangement was entered into regarding the adoption of a uniform standard for payment of Bhatta to witnesses summoned from Baroda territory in criminal cases by the courts of the Kathiawar States and *vice versa.*

The Committee, appointed by the Government of India to investigate the possibilities of extending the growth of long stapled cotton in India, held its sittings at Navsari for a couple of days in February 1918, and recorded the evidence of certain State officers and mill-owners possessing long experience on the subject.

Facilities afforded to our officers by several Governments.

33. The thanks of His Highness' Government are due to

(1) The Government of Madras, for their courtesy in—

(*a*) lending the services of Mr. James Hornell, F.L.S., Marine Biologist and Superintendent of Pearl and Chank Fisheries, Tuticorin, for a month, to examine the pearl fishery operations of the State at Okhamandal, and

(*b*) affording Mr. V. M. Bhatt, L.M.&S., the State Medical Store-keeper, necessary facilities for the study of the working of the Medical Stores Department, Madras.

(2) The Government of the United Provinces and the Chief Commissioner, Central Provinces, for allowing Messrs. Manilal B. Nanavati, B.A., LL.B., M.A., the State Director of Commerce, and C. H. Vora, B.A., A.M.I.C.E., Principal, Kala Bhavan, Baroda, necessary facilities for the study of the working of the Schools of Small Industries at Nagpur and Cawnpore, and also affording to the former facilities to visit the Department of Industries, U. P., at Lucknow.

(3) the Government of the Punjab for affording facilities to Messrs. S. V. Sane, B. Ag., M.Sc., and K. N. Powar, to study experiments with American cotton and other crops in that province, when they visited it in October 1917.

(4) The Government of Mysore for affording necessary facilities to Mr. V. R. Talwalkar, L.C.E., A.R.I.B.A., Executive Engineer, Baroda City, to see the water works, electrical works and buildings of architectural importance in Mysore and Bangalore.

(5) The Bikaner Durbar for their courtesy in giving a loan of certain old manuscripts from their Library for publication in the "Gaekwar's Oriental Series."

(6) The Governments of Gwalior and Alwar for their courtesy in allowing the State Chief Engineer, Mr. V. R. Akolkar, L.C.E., and the State Superintending Engineer, Mr. Raojibhai M. Patel, L.C.E., A.M.I.M.E., to inspect the Tegara Dam at Gwalior and the Jay Samand Tank at Alwar.

Appointment of Director of Civil Supplies.

34. As owing to War conditions, great difficulties were experienced by local merchants and State institutions in securing transport facilities for food-stuffs, coal, &c., it was found necessary to have some officer recognised as Director of Civil Supplies for the State. On the matter being represented to the Government of India, Mr. R. C. Whitnack, M.A., the State Controller of Prices and Commissioner of Excise, Commerce and Industries, was recognised Director of Civil Supplies for the Baroda State.

His Highness at the War Conference in Delhi.

35. For the purpose of discussing how best India could help the Empire in the great crisis, through which it was passing by due response in the matter of Man Power and of Resources, a War Conference was convened by His Excellency the Viceroy at Delhi on the 27th, 28th and 29th April 1918 to which the Ruling Princes and Chiefs, the representatives of the Provincial Governments and the leaders of all ranks and sections of the community, European and Indian, were invited. His Highness the Maharaja attended the said Conference with his Minister and moved the first resolution conveying an assurance of dutiful and loyal response of India to the gracious message of His Majesty the King-Emperor, read thereat by His Excellency the Viceroy.

Arrangements regarding recruitment.

36. With a view to meet the increased demand for recruits and to distribute the incidence of recruitment on the various parts of the country, the Government of India organised a scheme and relying on the co-operation of Indian States,

desired His Highness' Government to arrange to supply per month at least 170 men consisting of 50 combatants and 120 non-combatants. His Highness' Government accordingly appointed a Central Committee and District Committees on the basis of those appointed by the Government of India and also appointed a special officer to move about in the districts to secure recruits and to keep the Central Committee in touch with every aspect of the question. Subsequently Mr. Manirai T. Joshipura, B.A., LL.B., was appointed such Special Recruiting Officer and he was to work directly under the District Recruiting Officer for Gujarat.

False impression that recruiting was compulsory.

37. In the beginning the people laboured under a curious misguided impression that recruits were to be secured by force and were accordingly led away to oppose the measures. Ignorant masses collected and caused a disturbance in the City of Baroda, rescuing some of the recruits secured, on the 7th October 1917. Prompt and effective steps were taken by Government to restore order; the leaders of the people were interviewed and the intentions of Government clearly explained to them. The offenders were brought to book and it was notified throughout the whole Raj that recruiting was voluntary and not compulsory.

Concessions granted for recruiting

38. Several liberal and special concessions, over and above those granted by the British Government, were sanctioned by His Highness' Government for their subjects getting themselves enlisted as recruits and every effort was made to meet the wishes of the Government of India in this respect. A bonus of Rs. 25 to recruits for non-combatant service was allowed in the beginning and the same concession was extended later on to those for combatant service in addition. A family maintenance of Rs. 3 per mensem was sanctioned for the wife of the recruit, as also an allowance of Re. 1 per

mensem for each child under 12 years of age of the man, so long as he continued on War service. The State also undertook to supplement the pension allowance granted by the British Government to the widow of any recruit dying during service abroad so as to make it Rs. 5 per mensem, in case it fell short of that amount. In the case of Waghers, arrears of land revenue on the *Salami* and *Bhogami* lands held by them were ordered to be written off at the rate of ¼ of the arrears for every six months of service and the operation of the Giras Circular of 1877, enjoining confiscation of *haks* for commission of offences, was materially modified in the case of Kathi Girassias of Amreli: their families were allowed, on a recruit being offered and enrolled, the benefit of the Encumbered Estates Act and the Crown Grants Protection Act. Later on, it was notified that in the case of recruits who got themselves enlisted as combatants within twelve months from the date of the notification ten bighas of *jirayat* or five bighas of *bagayat* or *kyari* land when available would be granted to their sons rent-free for 15 years in the event of their dying while on active service. These concessions had the desired effect and the State was able to supply 1,417 recruits.

War Conference in Bombay

39. With a view to secure close co-operation between the Bombay Presidency and the Baroda State, especially as regards recruiting and the control of supplies, the Government of Bombay invited two representatives from His Highness' Government to attend the War Conference that was to be held at Bombay on 10th June 1918. Accordingly Rao Bahadur G. B. Ambegaokar, B.A., LL.B., Legal Remembrancer, and Mr. R. C. Whitnack, M.A., Commissioner of Excise, Commerce and Agriculture and Price Controller, Baroda State, assisted by Messrs. V. D. Satghare, B.A., LL.B., Political Secretary, and A. C. Desai, L. Ag., M.A., Director of Agriculture, Baroda, were deputed to attend the said Conference.

40. In response to the noble wish of Her Excellency Lady Chelmsford that all India should celebrate the 12th December 1917 as "Our Day" and raise funds for the Red Cross and St. John Ambulance Association of Jerusalem in aid of the sick and wounded in the great World War, His Highness the Maharaja directed that the day should be notified as a public holiday all over the State and measures adopted for the furtherance of the object in view. Accordingly a Central Committee was constituted with the Minister as President for organizing all the necessary arrangements. An elaborate programme was drawn up and all the celebrations were successfully carried out both at the Capital and in the Districts. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb himself contributed Rs. 40,000 (forty thousand) to the Red Cross Fund and the net collections realised from the public by the "Our Day" celebrations both in the City and in the Districts, amounted to about Rs. 27,464, which sum was remitted to the Honorary Treasurer, "Our Day," Simla, through the Resident at Baroda.

Our Day celebrations.

41. In addition to the contributions for War purposes mentioned in the last year's report, His Highness' Government made the following further contributions during the year 1917-18:—

War contributions.

(*a*) A sum of Rupees five lakhs was placed at the disposal of His Excellency the Viceroy in February 1918 to be spent in connection with the war. It was decided by His Excellency to credit the sum to his "War Gift Fund."

(*b*) In May 1918 in response to the Premier's stirring appeal to India, a further sum of Rupees fifteen lakhs was offered by His Highness as a token of his earnest desire to see the successful prosecution of the War to victory. It was

decided to allocate the gift towards the purchase of a fleet of Ford Transport Vans bearing an inscription indicating that they were the gift of His Highness.

(*c*) The State took the Second-War-Loan-bonds of rupees thirty lakhs in July 1918.

(*d*) The services of Mr. Y. V. Modak, L.M.&S., of the State Medical Department being temporarily required owing to the exigencies created by the War, he was relieved from State service to enable him to take up his new duties and was granted leave for the period with the further concession that his deputation service in the British Army Medical Department would count as pensionable service in the State.

(*e*) The Jaya Mahal Palace at Bombay with the Bungalow attached to it continued to be at the disposal of the Military Medical authorities for being used as an Hospital for officers.

(*f*) The State Steam Tug "Jubilee" continued to be at the disposal of the Military authorities.

(*g*) The monthly contribution of Rs. 12,000 was continued as before, towards the expenses of the British Indian Army engaged in the Great War.

(*h*) The services of 206 Sowars from the State Cavalry Regiments, deputed to Muttra for Remount duty, continued to be at the disposal of the British Military authorities.

(*i*) Dr. C. A. L. Mayer continued to do the duties of the Residency Surgeon at Baroda in addition to his duties as State Chief Medical Officer.

(*j*) The services of other European officers who were granted leave to take up Military employment under the British Government, continued to be at the disposal of that Government.

In addition to the above, the State continued to contribute by way of donations, &c., to other miscellaneous matters connected with the War, the total amount of these aggregating approximately to Rs. 1,95,000 upto the close of the year 1917-18.

CHAPTER II.

PROTECTION.

A.—The Army.

Personnel.

1. Colonel O. D. Rigg continued to act as General Officer Commanding Baroda Army, exercising the powers of Senapati. Major R. S. Parab, B.A., continued as Military Secretary, Colonel J. Devine was confirmed on the post of Officer Commanding the Infantry Brigade and Colonel N. G. Shinde was appointed sub-*pro tem* Officer Commanding Cavalry Brigade.

Strength of the Regular Force.

2. The actual strength of the Regular Force at the close of the year 1917-18 as compared with its fixed strength was as follows:—

Description of Force.	Fixed Strength			Actual Strength			Remarks.
	Effectives.	Non-effectives	Total	Effectives.	Non-effectives.	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Artillery.							
Light Field Battery .	93	67	160	63	41	104	
Total	93	67	160	63	41	104	
Cavalry.							
1st Cavalry	455	24	479	433	20	453	
2nd Lancers	455	24	479	446	18	464	
3rd Cavalry .. .	455	24	479	..	..		Amalgamated with the rest as a temporary measure.
The Guards	135	10	145	107	*13	*120	* This figure includes 6 Bhois sanctioned for the Dispensary.
Total ..	1,500	82	1,582	986	51	1,037	

Description of Force	Fixed Strength.			Actual Strength.			Remarks.
	Effectives.	Non-effectives	Total	Effectives.	Non-effectives	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Infantry							
1st Infantry .. .	698	29	727	763	31	794	
2nd Infantry ..	698	49	747	370	26	396	
3rd Infantry	698	29	727	602	32	634	
4th Infantry	516	27	543	.	.		Amalgamated with the rest.
Okha Battalion .	461	14	475	420	14	434	
Total	3,071	148	3,219	2,155	103	2,258	
The Band .	111	6	117	62	7	69	
The General and Staff Officers ..	6	2	8	4	.	4	
Grand Total	4,781	305	5,086	3,270	202	3,480	

3. The cost of maintaining this force during the year is shown in the following table :—

Cost of Maintenance

Artillery.	Cavalry	Infantry	Band	General and his Staff and Senapati Office	Medical Establishment.	Veterinary Establishment.	Total.
30,353	4,27,580	4,24,088	28,884	42,784	14,694	6,223	9,74,606

4. Thus the Regular Force cost Rs. 9,74,606 against Rs. 11,03,317 in the previous year. The decrease was mainly due to the amalgamation of the Staff office with the Senapati Office, to the fact that no full dress uniforms were issued during the year and to the larger number of vacancies in the rank and file.

Reasons for decrease in expenditure.

5. The average annual cost for each effective in the Artillery was Rs. 292, in the Cavalry Rs. 412, in the Infantry Rs. 188 and in the Band Rs. 418 or taking the whole

Average annual cost per effective.

force together, the average cost per effective was Rs. 328, or about Rs. 27 a month.

Strength of the irregulars

6. The total fixed strength of the irregular forces during the year was as follows :—

HORSE.

Shilledars.	Shibandi	Pagamhaya.	Khalsa	Total.
908	333	182	577	2,000

FOOT.

Shibandi.	Khalsa	Total.
1,139	667	1,806

Cost of the irregulars

7. The expenditure incurred on account of the irregular forces together with other establishment charges came to Rs. 3,05,799 against Rs. 3,46,082 of the last year.

Reasons for decrease in cost

8. The decrease was mainly due to further reduction of allowances under Succession Rules pertaining to Sardars and Shilledars and the transfer of some more Shilledars to other Departments during the year.

The average annual cost per head in the irregular force was Rs. 711.

Total cost of the Army

9. Taking the regular and irregular forces together, the total cost was as follows :—

Regular	Irregular.	Pension and Gratuity.	Total.
9,74,606	3,05,799	84,352	13,64,757

The sum of Rs. 3,70,309 paid on account of the annual contingent Commutation money to the Government of India was debited to this Department as in the past. The grand total of the expenditure during the year was Rs. 17,35,066 against Rs. 19,14,199 for the last year.

Classification by caste, etc.

10. The effectives in the regular army (except the Okha Battalion) are classified by religion as under :—

Force.		Hindus	Mahomedans.	Christians	Total	Average height	Average Chest Measurements.
Artillery	..	40	23	.	63	5'/6"	34"
Cavalry	..	759	227		986	5'/6 1"	33 6"
Infantry	.	1,421	313	1	1,735	5'/4 25"	33 3"
Band	.	19	29	14	62	5'/4"	.
Total	.	2,239	592	15	2,846	5'/5 9"	33·6"

Notable changes.

11. The following were some of the important changes introduced in the Department during the year :—

(1) The salaries of commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers and of the rank and file were increased.

(2) The men of the infantry regiments and those of the Light Field Battery who had hitherto to pay for their second dress will hereafter be provided with it at Government expense.

(3) The fixed graded salaries of the menials of the medical establishment of this Department have been replaced by minimum-maximum scale of salaries with periodical increments.

(4) The Field Officers of the Army who were governed by the special military leave rules will now be governed by the ordinary civil leave rules.

B.—Legislation.

Legal Remembrancer and Government Pleaders.

12. Rao Bahadur G. B. Ambegaokar, B.A., LL.B., was Legal Remembrancer for the whole of the year except during his temporary transfer to the Judicial Department from 24th September 1917 to 2nd May 1918, when Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, B.A., LL.B , acted for him. The Legal Remembrancer was, as hitherto, assisted in the conduct of civil and criminal litigation on behalf of Government by 39 Government pleaders. who worked satisfactorily during the year.

(*a*) Legislative Acts.

Acts and Rules published.

13. The Department published 17 Acts and 33 sets of rules and issued 9 circulars, out of which two were of a general nature. Of the Acts published, one was an original enactment and related to regaining the custody of wife and the restitution of conjugal rights; the rest were amending measures. All the rules were of the nature of amendments rendered necessary for the efficient working of the original rules.

Acts.

14. Among the Acts deserving special mention are the amendments in the Civil Procedure Code, the Municipal Act, the Local Boards Act, the Court Fees Act and the Act for regaining the custody of wife and restitution of conjugal rights.

Civil Procedure Code.

Owing to the absence of a clear provision in the Civil Procedure Code to the effect that Civil Courts are not debarred from entertaining suits involving caste questions, some misunderstanding seemed to prevail amongst the general public.

It was, therefore, considered necessary to remove it by adding an explanation in clear terms to section 5 of the local Civil Procedure Code.

Municipal Act

Owing to the amendments in the local Municipal Act, the post of the Municipal Commissioner was created for the Baroda City Municipality and hence the statement of powers of the Municipality was revised, in virtue of which the decisions of the Municipal Commissioner became final except in certain specific matters.

Local Boards Act

According to section 13 of the local Boards Act, one-third of the non-official members could hold office for one year only. But as this period was thought to be too short, it was amended so as to increase the period in the case of non-official members from one to three years. The area served by any Local Board or Municipality will now be divided into three groups, each group being thrown open for election every third year by rotation. Consequential changes were also made in section 17 of the Local Municipal Act.

Court Fees Act.

Under the old law, the rate of court fees was 7 per cent. for suits valued upto and below Rs. 1.000, and it decreased in proportion of the increase in the valuation of the suits By the present amendment, the rate of court fees has been revised and brought into line with that prevailing in British India in order to give relief to all classes of litigants. Other minor changes were also made, but they do not call for special mention.

Act for regaining the custody of wife.

Before this Act for regaining the custody of wife and restitution of conjugal rights came into force, there was no separate enactment on the subject, but an application for it could be entertained by criminal courts under Huzur Circular No. 3 of 1876. With the advance of time it was thought expedient to have a special enactment, and the present Act was

the result. The old circular and all other orders passed in this behalf have consequently been repealed and provision has been made for giving relief in a summary way, provided the applicant's age is 18 years or above and that of the woman, whose custody is sought for, is 16 or above. Under the old circular, these applications were decided by any Magistrate but the present enactment restricts the power to one of the 1st class only. Again the necessity of the aid of Panchas has been dispensed with by the new Act.

The amendments in other Acts were made to meet the exigencies arising from time to time and do not require any detailed mention.

Rules.

15. In consequence of the amendment of section 5 of the local Civil Procedure Code, section 350 of the rules thereunder was amended and instances were given in regard to caste, customs and usages which were not to be held binding except when any caste framed its own rules in respect of usages and customs and obtained the sanction of Government thereto. By the amendment of section 351 of the rules, the District Courts alone have been empowered to decide these cases originally.

Circulars.

16. Of the circulars published, one was a notification penalising the breaking and melting of gold and silver coins. The second announced the facilities to those permanent servants of Baroda Government, who offered themselves for service in the British Army.

Bills.

17. Although only one original Act was passed during the year, the Department published as many as 7 important Bills and invited suggestions from the general public :—

(1) The Bankers' Books Evidence Bill,

(2) The Insolvent Debtors' Bill,

(3) The Bill to amend the Transfer of Property Act (Validating Bill),

(4) The Dais' Bill,

(5) The Cattle-Pound Bill,

(6) The Dairy Bill, and

(7) The Bill regarding the method of official correspondence.

Keeping in touch with Foreign Legislation.

18. The Legal Remembrancer as usual kept himself in touch with foreign legislation and more especially with that of British India.

(b) THE INFANT MARRIAGE PREVENTION ACT.

Operation of the Infant Marriage Prevention Act

19. The following tables show the figures regarding the operation of the Infant Marriage Prevention Act:—

(I) Applications for exemption and offences.

Year	Applications for exemption		Offences against the Act		Percentage of fines more than Rs 10	REMARKS.
	No of applications.	Percentage of rejections	No of cases	Percentage of convictions		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1916-17 ..	331	5 7	7,407	81 5	17 5	12 persons were fined more than Rs. 50 and 122 more than Rs. 25.
1917-18 .	19	21	3,741	79 0	23·2	One person was fined more than Rs. 50 and 114 persons more than Rs. 25.

(II) *Analysis of percentage of persons granted exemptions according to their castes.*

Year.	Brahmins.	Kshatriyas.	Baniyas.	Artisans, etc.	Kunbis.	Kolis.	Dheds and Bhangis.	Others	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1916-17	1·2	·96	1 2	32	1 2	64	64	93 84	The greater number of applications was from the Golas.
1917-18	80			.	6 7	..	..	13 3	The greater number of applications was from the Brahmins.

(III) *Analysis of percentage of persons convicted according to their castes.*

Year	Brahmins	Kshatriyas	Baniyas	Artisans, etc	Kunbis	Kolis	Dheds and Bhangis	Others	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1916-17	3 4	2 5	1 1	2 7	17 2	26 6	16 5	30 0	
1917-18	2 6	3 1	1 5	3 4	13 4	27·5	17 7	30 8	

The figures show that the number of applications for exemption from the operation of the Act has considerably decreased and that the percentage of rejections of such applications has increased to a certain extent. Owing to the prevalence of plague during nearly six months of the year very few people sought exemptions. There is also a marked decrease in the number of offences against the Act owing to the same cause. Among the backward classes there is

unfortunately no appreciable change for the better as shown by the percentage of convictions amongst them. At the same time it is satisfactory to note that the number of marriages, celebrated beyond the age limit required by the Act, were 6,857 as reported by the Sar Suba, while those against the Act were 3,756.

(c) EXTRADITION.

Extradition demands

20. During the year, His Highness' Government made extradition demands in 95 cases, as against 123 cases last year and received similar demands in 127 cases from British India and Native States as compared with 99 last year.

Year	Demands by Baroda		Demands from Baroda.	
	Cases	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
1917-18 .	95	206	127	229
1916-17 .	123	242	99	157

Of these demands, 6 were withdrawn by Baroda; while out of the requisitions received, the same number was withdrawn by the British Authorities and by the Native States. During the year 153 persons were surrendered to Baroda in 74 cases, while Baroda surrendered 163 in 101 cases Out of 153 persons extradited during the year and those that were awaiting trial at the end of the last year, 71 were convicted in 45 cases, 59 acquitted in 24 cases, 30 discharged in 8 cases, 9 disposed of otherwise in 5 cases and 18 persons remained to be tried in 9 cases.

During the year, certificates for trial in British India were issued in 2 cases involving 4 accused persons charged with extraditable offences.

Nineteen deserters were handed over to the British military authorities in 12 cases during the year.

21. A question having been raised by the Superintendent, Wadhwan Civil Station Jail, whether the portion of a convict's sentence corresponding to the period of his absence from jail on account of his surrender under the Indian Extradition Act, 1903, to stand his trial for an offence committed in a Native State, should be remitted, the Government of Bombay ruled that in as much as the convict was surrendered "to stand his trial" and not "to give evidence" they were not prepared to grant any concession in such cases, except for special reasons.

Convict's sentence not to be remitted when sent for trial.

C.—Judicial.

(*a*) ORGANIZATION.

22. During the year under report, Mr. Balkrishna Parashram Karandikar, B.A., LL.B., continued as Chief Justice till his retirement on the 1st of April 1918, when he was succeeded by the then Second Judge Mr. Ramdatt W. Desai, B.A., LL.B., who continued as such till the end of the year. Messrs. R. H. Gokhale, B.A., LL.B., and Damubhai D. Mehta, M.A., LL.B., worked as Puisne Judges throughout the year. Rao Bahadur Ganesh B. Ambegaonkar, B.A., LL.B., was deputed to work as an additional Judge from 24th September 1917 to 2nd May 1918 to clear off the arrears in the Varishta Court.

Personnel.

23. The Administrative work of the Department was done by the Chief Justice for about a month in the beginning of the year, when it was transferred to the Legal Remembrancer.

Administrative work

24. The number of Courts was as follows:—

Number of Courts

Varishta Court	1
District Judges' Courts including that of the City District Judge	5

Assistant Judges' Courts	4
Subordinate Judges' Courts	24
District Magistrates' Courts	4
Ex-officio Revenue Magistrates' (Executive) Courts	86
Ordinary Magistrates' Courts	24
Revenue Magistrates exercising 2nd and 3rd Class powers (Judicial)	26
Village Munsiffs' Courts	3
Other Officers invested with Civil Powers	5
Courts of Village Panchayats exercising Civil and Criminal Powers	89

(b) CIVIL CASES.

File and disposal of Original Civil Cases

25. The work turned out by the Civil Courts in the Original Jurisdiction during the year is shown in the following table.

Year	Number of Suits filed	Number of Suits disposed of (including the pending cases of the previous year)
1	2	3
1917–18 ..	15,171	15,816
1916–17 .	19,377	18,030

The number of suits pending disposal at the end of the year was 3,906 as against 4,578. Of these, 419 ordinary suits were of more than one year's standing as against 438 last year. This continued pendancy of old suits was due to congestion

of such cases in the Courts of several Munsiffs and two District Courts.

Classification of suits and percentages

26. Classifying the suits, which are divisible into Ordinary and Small Causes, according to subject matter, their percentages stand as follows:—

Ordinary Suits.	Percentages.		Small Cause Suits.	Percentages.	
	1917-18.	1916-17		1917-18	1916-17.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Relating to money matters ..	71 3	73·7	Relating to contracts .	96·0	97·6
Relating to immoveable property ..	23·4	22·1	Relating to damages..	1·0	·4
Relating to other matters .	5·3	4 2	Relating to recovery of possession, or the value of moveable property	3 0	2 0

Disposal of ordinary suits

27. The disposal of ordinary suits is shown below:—

Year.	Cases filed	Valuation in Rupees.	Cases disposed of (including pending cases).	Average duration of contested cases (in days).	Cases pending at the end of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1917–18	6,302	28,14,314	6,581	212	2,581
1916–17	8,132	22,71,970	7,403	164	2,860

Duration of non-contested suits.

28. The average duration of non-contested ordinary suits was 57 against 32 days in the previous year.

Small Causes.

29. The disposal of small causes suits was as under :—

Year	Cases filed.	Valuation in Rupees	Cases disposed of (including old pending cases)	Average duration of contested suits (in days).	Cases pending at the end of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1917-18	10,590	6,08,988	9,265	68	1,325
1916-17	11,245	6,94,502	10,627	55	1,718

Duration of non-contested suits

30. The average duration of non-contested Small Cause Suits was 36 days as against 30 in the previous year.

Darkhasts

31. File and disposal of Darkhasts was as follows :—

Year.	Filed	Disposed of (including old pending cases).	Pending at the end of the year.	Average duration (in days).
1	2	3	4	5
1917–18 .	12,607	13,219	3,217	160
1916–17 . .	18,177	17,506	3,832	146

Percentage of mode of disposal

32. The following table will show the percentages of the modes in which 13,219 Darkhasts were disposed of :—

Year.	Stayed at the request of parties	Struck off the file.	Dealt with by rajinama, compromise, etc.	Actual execution.
1	2	3	4	5
1917–18	20 0	24 4	35 4	20·2
1916–17	21 1	19·2	43 7	16 0

33. The various ways in which satisfaction of Darkhasts was effected in cases wherein the aid of Courts was solicited are as shown below :—

Satisfaction of Darkhasts.

Mode of satisfaction	Percentage of Darkhasts in ordinary suits		Percentage of Darkhasts in small cause suits.	
	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17.
1	2	3	4	5
By actual payment of money	55·6	54 6	95·2	92 5
,, delivery of possession	19 9	17 7	..	2
,, sale of immovable property	20·4	22 0	.	..
,, sale of movable property ..	2 1	3 5	3 4	5 1
,, imprisonment of judgment-debtors	8	1·7	7	1·1
,, giving periodical instalments .	1·2	5	7	1 1

34. The average duration and disposal of Civil Appeals was as under :

Civil Appeals.

Year.	Filed.	Valuation in Rupees	Disposed of (including old pending cases)	Pending at the end of the year	Average duration (in days).	
					Contested appeals.	Other appeals.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1917-18	2,295	3,73,265	1,390	905	264	124
1916-17	1,435	4,72,842	1,514	973	276	119

Result of Civil Appeals.

35. The result of Civil Appeals :—

Year	Percentage of 1st appeals decided by Varishta Court			Percentage of 2nd appeals decided by Varishta Court.			Percentage of appeals decided by District Judges.		
	Confirmed	Reversed	Modified	Confirmed.	Reversed.	Modified.	Confirmed.	Reversed.	Modified.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1917-18 ..	56	40	4	76	15	9	58	16	26
1916-17 .	57	14	29	78	8	14	57	23	20

VILLAGE MUNSIFFS' COURTS.

Village Munsiffs' Courts

36. At the beginning of the year under report there were 3 Village Munsiffs' Courts, *viz.*, at Kumlivada, Petlad and Variav. The following table will show the work turned out by these Courts :—

Year	Number of suits filed (including arrears).	Number of suits disposed of.	Arrears	Average duration (in days).
1	2	3	4	5
1917-18	161	161	..	36
1916-17 . .	241	218	23	36

CONCILIATORS.

Conciliators.

37. The system of conciliation was in force in 26 Talukas including the Baroda City as in the preceding year. The number of conciliators during the year under report was 195

as against 193 in the last year. The state of the file and its disposal was as under :—

District.	1917-18.			1916-17.		
	File with arrears.	Disposal	Arrears	File with arrears.	Disposal.	Arrears.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Baroda	5,035	4,788	247	6,548	6,076	472
Kadi	2,009	1,967	42	3,957	3,914	43
Navsari	795	775	20	1,236	1,188	48
Amreli	353	337	16	213	181	32
Total	8,192	7,867	325	11,954	11,359	555

As an experiment, the system was declared optional in six places in the State for three years since 1914-15, and the result is that out of the total number of suits within cognizance of the conciliators, nearly 50 per cent. were taken before them and the rest were filed in the regular Courts. Litigants seem to prefer conciliation only when they have no Ordinary Civil Court within easy reach. Conciliators are now to be elected by the Panchayats in order to create greater confidence among the people.

VILLAGE PANCHAYATS.

Village Panchayats.

38. In addition to the Village Munsiffs and Conciliators, there were in all 89 Village Panchayats as in the last year empowered to dispose of judicial work. The following table will show the work turned out by them :—

Year.	File (including arrears).	Disposal.	In Plaintiff's favour.	In Defendant's favour.	Average duration (in days).
1	2	3	4	5	6
1917-18	396	386	329	57	10
1916-17	244	222	193	29	8

Possessory Suits.

39. The file and disposal of Possessory Suits was as under :—

Possessory Suits

Year.	Suits for disposal	Suits disposed of	Pending.	Average duration (in days).
1	2	3	4	5
1917-18	569	469	100	47
1916-17	732	595	137	41

General decrease in the file of Civil Suits, &c.

40. There was a general decrease in the file of Civil Suits, Darkhasts, and claims taken before Conciliators probably due to the increased prices of food-stuffs and the partial failure of crops as a result of the abnormal rainfall in the latter part of the season.

General increase in the average duration of Civil Suits, &c.

41. It will appear that there was a general increase in the period of average duration of Suits, Darkhasts, &c. This was due to the prevalence of severe plague during the greater part of the year throughout the whole Raj, in consequence of which the office time of the Courts had to be curtailed and the hearings of suits had to be postponed owing to the difficulty in securing the attendance of witnesses, &c.

(c) Criminal Cases.

File, disposal and average duration of Criminal Cases

42. The following table will show the file, disposal and average duration of Criminal cases :—

Year.	File	Disposal (including old pending cases).	Average duration (in days).	Average duration of Summary Cases (in days).
1	2	3	4	5
1917-18 ..	18,449	17,744	6	5
1916-17 ..	19,825	18,893	5	3

The prevalence of plague is here again responsible for the increase in the average duration of criminal cases. There was a decrease in the file of offences and the disposal was in proportion to the file.

43. The number of cases tried by the Courts of Sessions Judges was 1'45 against 186 last year.

No of cases tried by Sessions Judges.

44. The number of accused persons whose cases were disposed of was 38,617 as against 39,693 in the previous year, showing an average of two accused persons to each case. The total number of witnesses examined in the year was 21,705 against 21,768 in the previous year.

Number of accused tried and number of witnesses examined

45. Percentage of different kinds of offences :—

Percentage of Offences

Year	Against property.	Against person.	Against public justice.	Against tranquility	Against marriage	Fabricating false documents.	Against coinage.	Regarding public service.	Other offences.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1917–18 ..	27·8	27·5	4	4·0	2·6	2	.	5	37·0
1916–17 ..	19·7	22·3	4	3·7	2·0	·4	.	6	50·9

55 per cent. of the offences were against person and property during the year under report, while in the preceding year they were 42 per cent.

46. The more serious cases in the year under report will be seen from the following table :—

Serious Offences.

Year	Murder.	Culpable homicide.	Grievous hurt	Rape	Dacoity	Robbery.	House-breaking.	Forgery.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1917–18	91	59	352	16	17	112	387	18
1916–17	51	33	198	16	25	113	291	33

The increase in the offences both against person and property is significant and may be ascribed to the general poverty prevailing in the lower classes owing to the rise in the prices of food-stuffs and the partial failure of crops.

Percentage of convictions.

47. Percentage of convictions :—

Year.	Convicted	Acquitted or discharged
1	2	3
1917–18	28	72
1916–17	37	63

Hitherto this percentage used to be determined from the ratio of the number of cases in which the alleged offence was proved and that of those in which it was not proved to the total number of cases tried. The more correct method, which has been adopted since the year under report, seems to be to determine the percentage from the ratio of the number of persons convicted and the number of those acquitted to the total number of persons tried. According to this method, the last year's figures would be 37 convicted and 63 acquitted or discharged instead of 77 and 23 respectively as indicated in the last report.

Punishments.

48. The following statement will indicate the nature of punishments meted out :—

Year.	Capital sentences.	Fines only	Imprisonment with or without fine.	Imprisonment with whipping	Orders to furnish security.	Whipping only.	Solitary confinement.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1917–18	2	8,650	1,579	.	178	1	..
1916–17	2	13,207	1,129	..	127	4	..

Criminal Appeals

49. The disposal of criminal appeals was as under :—

Year.	File (including old pending cases).	Disposal	Percentage of cases.		
			Confirmed	Modified	Reversed or remanded for retrial.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1917-18	615	565	63%	10%	27%
1916-17	647	590	62%	12%	26%

INAMDARS' WORK.

Inamdars' work.

50. The number of Inamdars invested with criminal powers was 10 during the year, the same as in the last year. Of these, 6 Inamdars, *viz.*, The Thakors of Ghatu-Dhanpura and Miyagam and the Inamdars of Ena, Deva-Talpad, Kanhi and Goriad only did any work. They had between them 18 cases involving 29 accused, of which they tried and disposed of 15 cases, which related to 26 accused and transferred 2 cases to other courts. Of the 26 accused whose cases were disposed of, 7 were convicted and fined and 19 were acquitted. Last year 6 Inamdars, *viz.*, the Thakors of Ghatu-Dhanpura and Miyagam and the Inamdars of Ena, Deva-Talpad, Kanhi and Sultanpura tried and disposed of 14 cases involving 22 persons.

PLEADERS AND MUKHTYARS.

Pleaders and Mukhtyars

51. The number of pleaders and mukhtyars in the several courts of this State was 429 against 417 last year. 6 Sanads were granted during the year for a period of 2 years only, while 10 new pleaders were permanently enrolled for the first time during the year. 1 pleader died during the year and the names of 3 were struck off the register. Of the total

number of pleaders, 5 were Barristers-at-Law, 121 LL.B.'s, 4 High Court Pleaders, 36 District Pleaders and the remaining 263 had either passed the local Pleader's or Mukhtyar's examination.

Income and expenditure

52. The total receipts of Civil and Criminal Courts (from stamps, court-fees, fines and other items) and the expenditure during the last two years were as under :—

Year	Income	Expenditure
1	2	3
	Rs	Rs
1917-18	3,62,947	4,29,212
1916-17	4,26,859	4,70,469

Inspection

53. The acting Mukhya Kamdar of the Varishta Court, Mr. Mithabhai J. Patel, B.A., LL.B., inspected all the subordinate courts of the Baroda District and some of the Navsari District during the period under report. The Chief Justice could not tour in the Districts for inspection; but the Legal Remembrancer paid flying visits to the different Courts in the Baroda and Navsari Districts inspected by the Mukhya Kamdar and himself inspected the Baroda and Navsari District Courts.

General.

54. The practice of levying court-fees on copies of decrees of courts established or continued by the authority of the Governor-General in Council outside British India or of courts situated in the administered areas outside British India was discontinued. A uniform standard was fixed for payment of bhatta to the witnesses in criminal cases summoned from the Kathiawar States.

D.—Police.

Personnel

55. Mr. R. J. Hirst was in charge of the Department throughout the year except for about two months when he was on leave; and Mr. Rupshankar Morarji, the Police Naib Suba, Baroda District, acted for him.

Sanctioned strength.

56. The sanctioned strength of the force, excluding non-effectives but including the Criminal Investigation Department, was 1,024 officers and 3,958 men as against 1,024 officers and 3,961 men last year, the decrease of 3 men being due to the reduction of three temporary hands. The force consisted of 199 mounted and 4,783 foot police. The strength of the Criminal Investigation Department remained unaltered.

Water and Railway Police

57. The water-police establishment in the Amreli District and the Railway Police establishment in Baroda, Kadi and Navsari Districts remained unchanged.

Distribution of sanctioned strength.

58. The distribution of the sanctioned strength, excluding the Criminal Investigation Department, the Finger Print Bureau and the places kept vacant, is shown in the following table —

District.	Strength.	Jail and Treasury Guards.	Palace, Office and other guards.	Tainat.	Writer orderlies and Head-quarters men.	Reserve	Engaged in prevention and detection of crime.	Vacancies.
Baroda	1,760	88	287	100	118	88	978	101
Kadi .. .	1,569	127	54	76	93	175	714	330
Navsari . ..	675	83	17	45	61	11	336	122
Amreli	555	4	8	40	40	92	331	32
Total	4,559	302	366	261	264	366	2,359	585

The total number of places kept vacant was 400 as in the last year. The increase in the number of vacancies, which was anticipated in the last report, was 145. The large increase in Kadi (from 145 to 330) has been compensated for to some extent by a decrease in Baroda City, but only by a relaxation of the standard of fitness.

Caste and creed.

59. The distribution of the force by religions was as under :—

Caste.	1917-18.	1916-17.
Hindus	2,151	2,163
Mahomedans	1,811	1,947
Other religions	12	12
Total ..	3,974	4,122

The percentage belonging to war-like classes, *viz*, Mahomedans, Marathas, Rajputs, Kolis, Bhils, etc., was 70 as against 69 last year.

Education

60. The percentage of men able to read and write was 52 as against 54 in the previous year. This decrease may be attributed in part to the enlistment of inferior men in the Baroda District.

Training

61. The Head-quarters Schools carried out their usual programme of instruction during the year under report.

The following is the number of Police Officers and men who passed the various Departmental and other examinations.—

Examinations.	No of officers and men.
Sar Fauzdar's Examination	2
Fauzdar's Examination	2
Naib Fauzdar's Examination	25
Ambulance Examination	12

Our Police Training Class established in Baroda did its work well, 5 out of 6 students having passed the final

examination of the Fauzdar's Class. The Naib Fauzdar's Class was not examined during the year, as their practical training was not finished in time.

Drill, training, target-practice, etc.

62 Drill, discipline and physical training were, as usual, attended to at District Head-quarters and selected officers and men were sent to the Infantry Regiments for a course of instruction in drill. Athletic sports were held and ball practice was carried on in all the districts and prizes were awarded to the winners.

Punishments.

63. The number of punishments awarded to officers and men during the year under report was 2,261 (78 judicial and 2,183 departmental) against 2,495 (130 judicial and 2,365 departmental). The percentage of punishments to the actual force was 49 as against 54 in the preceding year. The decrease was shared by Baroda, Kadi and Amreli districts.

Rewards

64. 159 officers and men received money rewards as against 153, while 6 men received special promotion for good work as against 20 last year. The improvement in giving money rewards, though small, is satisfactory. Special promotions are not always possible as they are detrimental to the rights of seniors and have therefore to be resorted to very sparingly.

Health.

65 The health of the force, with the usual exception of Baroda and Navsari Districts, was good. Plague, however, visited all the four districts

Cinchona Febrifuge had to be distributed instead of quinine, on account of the prohibitive price of the latter and the results were not so satisfactory.

Police Buildings

66. Progress under this head during the year was hampered by plague and exorbitant rates of materials and labour. Out of the works

in progress last year, the Ganja-khana lines alone in the Baroda City were completed; repairs to the Bhuthadizapa lines in the Baroda City were carried out at a cost of Rs. 16,813 and other miscellaneous repairs also were done in other places. Of the amount of Rs. 1,02,000 allotted for the year for the Police Head-quarters at Mehsana, only Rs. 57,480 could be spent.

Expenditure

67. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 7,60,727 as against Rs. 8,07,726 in the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 46,999.

The following table shows the details :—

—	Heads of charges	Expenditure in the year 1917-18.			Expenditure in the year 1916-17.			Increase or decrease.		
		Rs	a.	p	Rs	a	p	Rs	a.	p.
1	Pay and allowances	6,61,869	1	1	6,89,759	12	9	—27,890	11	8
2	Dress grant, arms and accoutrements	43,640	6	4	59,359	1	6	—15,718	11	2
3	Dead-stock	1,149	8	11	2,241	14	10	—1,092	5	11
4	Contingent and miscellaneous	51,524	8	3	54,398	13	3	—2,874	5	0
5	Temporary	2,543	9	3	1,966	11	11	+ 576	13	4
	Total	7,60,727	1	10	8,07,726	6	3	—46,999	4	5

The decrease under the head of pay and allowances was due to a larger number of vacancies, that under arms and accoutrements, to no purchase having been made of any such article. Purchase of dead-stock was very small in the Kadi and Baroda Districts on account of high prices, and the lesser expense in Kadi and Baroda on account of travelling accounts for the decrease under the head of contingent and miscellaneous. The Baroda District got a thousand rupees from the Khangi Department to cover the travelling expenses of the Police specially called to Baroda from the districts at the time of the marriage of Shrimati Indumati Devi. The increase

under the head of temporary was due to the establishment of a class for the training of Fauzdars.

The average cost per man of the population came to Re. 0-6-0 as against Re. 0-6-4 and that per head of the force came to Rs. 153 against Rs. 162 last year.

Offences reported to the Police

68. The total number of cognizable offences reported to the police during the year was, 3,829 as against 3,820 (3,817 + 3 D. F.)-- a very small increase of 9. Offences against person and property have increased while miscellaneous offences have decreased.

The following statement shows the fluctuation in reported crime according to districts for the last 5 years excluding the cases on the dormant file :—

Year	Baroda	Kadi	Navsari	Amreli	Total.
1913-14	1,631	1,106	241	346	3,364
1914-15	1,929	975	228	344	3,476
1915-16	2,013	929	300	498	3,740
1916-17	2,183	964	236	434	3,817
1917-18	1,890	1,196	371	372	3,829

Classes of offences.

69. The following comparative statement (p. 49-50) gives particulars of reported crime under all classes according to the districts for the last two years :—

In Class I—offences against person, there was an increase of 53 cases, the percentage being 13·21 against 11·87 in the previous year. Baroda, Kadi and Navsari districts showed an increase of 23, 3 and 36 respectively, while Amreli showed a decrease of 9.

In Class II—offences against property, there was an increase of 20 cases, the percentage being 74·20 against 73·83 in the preceding year. Baroda and Amreli showed a decrease of 239 and 58 cases, while Kadi and Navsari showed an increase of 230 and 87 cases respectively.

In Class III—miscellaneous offences, there was a decrease of 64 cases, the percentage being 12·59 against 14·30 last year. Baroda and Kadi showed a decrease of 77 and 3 cases, while Navsari and Amreli showed an increase of 12 and 4 cases respectively.

Proportion of crime to Police

70. The proportion of reported cognizable crime to the Police employed in the detection and prevention of crime is 1·62 against 1·56 in the previous year, the difference being naturally due to a larger number of vacancies.

Cases for inquiry.

71. Besides the 3,829 cases mentioned above, the Police had to deal with 701 pending cases of the last year as against 658 in the previous year. The total number of cases for Police inquiry was therefore 4,530 as against 4,478.

Disposal of cases

72. Of the cases for disposal, none was time-barred as against 3 last year; 690 against 648 were false cases; 1,128 or 24·90 per cent. as against 1,122 or 25·06 per cent. of cases were placed on dormant file; 171 or 3·77 per cent. of cases as against 159 or 3·55 per cent. were either compounded or withdrawn; 786 or 17·35 per cent. as against 701 or 15·65 per cent. of cases remained under inquiry by the Police at the close of the year; 212 or 4·68 per cent. of cases as against 168 or 3·75 per cent. were not detected or apprehended and the remaining 1,543 or 34·06 per cent. of cases as against 1,677 or 37·45 per cent. were committed for trial during the year under report.

No	OFFENCES	BARODA				KADI				NAVSARI				AMRELI				TOTAL			
		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate	
		16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18
	Against Person.																				
1	Murder	16	18			17	12			1	2	.	.	5	3		.	39	35	.	.
2	Attempt at murder .	3	4			1		.				.	1	1	2		1	5	6	..	2
3	Culpable homicide . .	6	8			7	9			2	11	.			1		.	15	29	.	..
4	Grievous hurt	41	62	9	10	67	61	4	8	14	20	6	2	8	10	4	2	130	156	23	22
5	Rape	5	2	2	1	3	2			2	.	1	1	2				12	4	3	2
6	Kidnapping and abduction	13	15	2	2	10	6	1	4		1	.		1	7	1		24	29	4	6
7	Drugging	1	2			3	1	.	.	.			.			.	.	4	3	.	
8	Causing death, etc , by rash act	1	..	.	.	1	1	.	.	4	2	.		1	1		.	7	4	.	.
9	Miscellaneous	107	105	25	36	72	89	29	25	6	29	7	21	32	17	13	13	217	240	74	95
	Total	193	216	38	49	181	184	34	37	29	65	14	25	50	41	18	16	453	506	104	127
	Against Property.																				
10	Dacoity or preparation . .	4	5	.	.	2	2	1	1		5	.	.	.	1	..	.	6	13	1	1
11	Robbery . . .	25	16	3		16	23	1		1	3	.		8	8	..	1	50	50	4	1
12	Theft with house-breaking .	481	516	.	3	119 + 1D	242		.	40	57			68 + 1D	89	.	.	708 - 2D	904		3
13	Theft { Cattle	33	21	.	1	46 + 1D	35	1	1	6		1	1	6	2	2	.	91 + 1D	58	4	3
	Theft { Others	519	483	33	26	261	333	19	21	69	125	4	15	179	124	18	18	1,028	1,065	74	80
14	Associating with criminals	.	1		.	.	.						.		.		.	.	1	.	.
15	Receiving stolen property ..	8	10	1	..	6	1	1	.	2	8	.	.	5	3	.	.	21	22	2	..
16	Criminal breach of trust . ..	41	39	15	12	25	20	8	9	14	17	4	10	20	3	11	7	100	79	38	38

No.	OFFENCES.	BARODA.				KADI.				NAVSARI				AMRELI.				TOTAL.			
		Police.		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate		Police.		Magistrate		Police		Magistrate	
		16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18	16–17	17–18
	Against Property—*contd*																				
17	Cheating	46	25	5	9	18	16	10	7	3	1	2	..	6	2	4	..	73	44	21	16
18	House-breaking	141	100	20	1	21	32	3	4	27	19	20	5	18	18	2	18	207	169	45	28
19	Miscellaneous	322	165	23	35	177	219	967	1,430	8	22	5	33	27	30	18	15	534	436	1,013	1,513
	Total	1,620	1,381	100	87	691+2D	923	1,011	1,473	170	257	36	64	337+1D	280	55	59	2,818+3D	2,841	1,202	1,633
	Miscellaneous.																				
20	Public tranquillity	10	13	4	10	16	17	17	6	2	2	4	2	4	8	2	..	32	40	27	18
21	Harbouring offenders		..			1	1							6	2			7	3		
22	Pretending to be a Govt servant																				
23	Offences against coinage	1	1							2					1			3	2		
24	Offences against currency notes																				
25	Offences against justice	9	9			1	2			4	2			3	3			17	16		..
26	Offences against marriage	14	11	22	28	13	12	30	6				..	6	8	7	3	33	31	68	40
27	Other offences	336	259	45	42	61	57	6	17	29	45	89	79	28	29	2		454	390	142	138
	Total	370	293	71	80	92	89	62	32	37	49	93	81	47	51	11	3	546	482	237	196
	Grand Total	2,183	1,890	209	216	964+2D	1,196	1,107	1,542	236	371	143	170	434+1D	372	84	78	3,817+3D	3,829	1,543	2,006

73. Of the 1,707 cases with Magistrates (1,543 committed during the year + 164 pending from the previous year) 156 as against 142 were either compounded or withdrawn; 983 against 1,140 ended in conviction; 407 against 396 ended in discharge or acquittal and 161 against 164 remained pending trial with Magistrates. The percentage of cases convicted to cases tried was 62·94 as against 67·94 in the previous year.

Disposal of cases after commitment

Taking districts separately, the percentage of cases convicted was as under —

District.	Percentage in 1916-17.	Percentage in 1917-18.
Baroda	75·50	72·15
Kadi	55·70	49·57
Navsari	69·33	76·13
Amreli	62·65	52·57

Navsari showed a satisfactory rise, while Kadi and Amreli a marked fall which is regretted.

74 Taking important offences separately, it appears that out of 50 true cases of murder and culpable homicide 42 were tried, the percentage of convictions to cases tried being 59·52 as against 63·16. Out of 5 true cases of dacoity 3 were tried, the percentage of convictions being 33·33 as against 60. Out of 21 true cases of robbery 13 were tried, the percentage of convictions being 76·92 as against 64·70; out of 803 true cases of burglary 192 were tried, the percentage of convictions being 69·27 as against 65·79.

Percentage of convictions in important crimes.

75. Property was stolen in 1,731 cases out of 4,530 dealt with by the Police and in 848 cases it was recovered. The alleged value of property stolen was Rs. 2,05,055 and that of property recovered was Rs. 46,726, the percentage of recovery being 22·7 as against 19·6 in the previous year, which was below the average for the reason noted in the last report.

Property stolen and recovered.

The percentage of cases in which property was recovered was 48·90 as against 53·43 in the preceding year.

Number of persons arrested and their disposal.

76. The number of persons arrested in all the cases dealt with during the year was 3,581 as against 3,755 last year. Of these, 479 were disposed of before trial (474 released—100 by the Police and 374 by the Magistrates—3 escaped and 2 died). Of the remaining 3,102, 2,632 were tried (1,307 convicted and 1,325 acquitted or discharged), 3 died, 13 escaped during trial, and 150 persons remained pending inquiry with the Police and 304 pending trial with the Magistrates.

The ratio of persons convicted to persons tried was 49·66 as against 54·20 in the preceding year.

Magistrates' direct cases.

77. Cases coming before the Magistrates directly have increased from 1,543 to 2,006 during the year under report. The district figures and the percentages of conviction in these cases were :—

District.	1917-18.		1916-17.	
	Figures.	Percentage	Figures.	Percentage.
Baroda	216	21·29	209	28·70
Kadi	1,542	1·62	1,107	1·98
Navsari	170	45·88	143	55·94
Amreli	78	15·38	84	21·42
Total ..	2,006	..	1,543	..

It will be noticed that there was a general increase under this head in all the districts except in Amreli. The increase in Kadi was very great indeed.

78. As usual, Bhils, Kolis and Waghris formed the majority of criminals.

Caste of criminals.

79. Khan Saheb Abdul Karimmia Nurudinmia Sheikh remained in charge of the Criminal Investigation Department throughout the year. The strength of the Criminal Investigation Department remained unaltered.

Criminal Investigation Department.

The Department had 5 cases against 11 for disposal during the year including 3 cases (2 with the Department and 1 with the Magistrate) pending at the close of the previous year. Of these, 1 ended in conviction, 3 in acquittal or discharge and 1 remained pending investigation by the Department. Of the 5 cases taken up, 3 were against property, 1 against person and 1 related to coining. As regards preventive measures, the one case that was pending enquiry at the end of the last year had to be given up as 2 of the witnesses died of plague and more evidence could not be procured. One new case was taken up and sent to the Magistrate but it was not disposed of at the close of the year.

Besides the cases described above, the Criminal Investigation Department did its usual work of a confidential and political nature and assisted the regular police in 16 cases.

In 3 cases, the Criminal Investigation Department co-operated with the British Police and gave them adequate assistance. One of the officers of the Department traced an accused wanted by the Nizam State under section 206 of the Indian Penal Code.

80. The Finger Print Bureau remained under the control of the Chief Detective Officer throughout the year. There was no change in its strength.

Finger Print Bureau.

The number of slips on record at the beginning of the year was 18,173 to which 945 were added during the year under

report, bringing the total to 19,118. Of the new slips received, 749 were from local and 196 from foreign officers as against 1,035 and 192 respectively in the previous year. Of the total slips on record, 68 were removed—6 on account of deaths among convicts, 59 on account of deaths among ex-convicts and 3 owing to the convictions not coming under the Finger Print Bureau rules—leaving a balance of 19,050 at the end of the year. The number of slips sent to foreign bureaux for record was 165 against 223 in the previous year. 1,510 slips were received for trace during the year as against 1,430 in the preceding year, 1,024 being from local and 486 from foreign officers, as against 933 and 497 respectively. Of these, 187 were traced as against 212, giving a percentage of 12·38 against 14·82 last year. Our Bureau sent 1,090 slips for trace to other bureaux as against 850 in the previous year. Of these, 92 against 101 were traced.

The Bureau drew the attention of the officers concerned in 14 cases as against 17 last year to inadequate sentences passed. In 13 criminal cases, officers from the Bureau were summoned this year to give expert opinion against 7 last year.

One officer from each of the four districts had his knowledge of finger print work brushed up in the Bureau and was then sent round the Talukas as an instructor to the Police and Nondhani Kamdars.

General.

81. As securities in bad livelihood cases were indiscriminately accepted, the object of taking such securities was not adequately fulfilled. It has, therefore, been laid down that the Police should be consulted about the fitness of the securities offered in such cases before they are accepted.

Owing to strenuous work in particular places, it was thought necessary to reserve them for Fauzdars of exceptional abilities and to permit them to draw the salaries of the first grade.

E.—Prisons.

Personnel.

82. The prisons were under the control of the Police Commissioner, as in the past, and he was for that purpose designated the Inspector-General of Prisons.

Number of Jails and Lock-ups

83. There was no change in the number of jails and lock-ups in the State during the year. They were as under :—

1 Central Jail, 4 District Jails, and 40 Lock-ups.

Total number of admissions

84. The total number of admissions in all the jails and lock-ups, was 3,874 (3,623 males and 251 females) as against 4,249 (3,932 males and 317 females) in the previous year—a decrease of 375.

Total daily average.

85. The total daily average number of prisoners in all the jails and lock-ups was 780 (749 males and 31 females) as against 843 (800 males and 43 females) last year.

Religion.

86. Of the total number of convicts admitted, 89·5 per cent. as against 90·0 were Hindus, 10·3 per cent. as against 9·8 were Mahomedans and 0·2 per cent. as against the same percentage were of other religions.

Age.

87. The ages between 15 and 40 contributed, as before, the largest number of criminals, *viz.*, 880 as against 1,042 in the previous year.

Education.

88. 15·8 per cent. as against 15·7 of the total number of convicts were literate.

Occupation.

89. Labourers, cultivators and private servants formed the largest portion of the jail population.

90. The offences, with which the majority of the convicts were charged, were as usual theft, burglary and hurt.

Offences.

91. Most of the sentences were for periods up to 6 months.

Terms of sentences.

92. During the year under report the total expenditure, exclusive of guards for lock-ups, was Rs. 1,03,840 as against Rs. 1,01,604 in the previous year—an increase of Rs. 2,236, which does not call for any special explanation, when the fact of the high prices is borne in mind.

Expenditure.

93. The average cost per prisoner was Rs. 133-2-1 as against Rs. 120-8-5 last year, the increase being due to high market rates of food-stuffs and clothing and to a smaller daily average of jail population.

Average cost.

94. The total earnings of all the jails and lock-ups were Rs. 30,067 as against Rs. 26,997—an increase of Rs. 3,070, which was due to the higher prices obtained for the manufactured articles.

Earnings

The Central Jail alone contributed Rs. 12,353 to these earnings.

95. The Thana System of sending select prisoners to the Model Farm and allowing them freedom was continued in view of its satisfactory working.

Thana system

96. There was no occasion to deport any lifer from the Central Jail to the Andamans during the year.

Deportation.

F.—Registration.

Personnel.

97. Mr. Maneklal Sakerlal Desai, M.A., was in charge of the Department from the beginning of the year upto 5th May 1918, when he retired from service and was succeeded by Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, B.A., LL.B. Besides the four District Subas, who were ex-officio District Registrars, there were 43 Sub-Registrars as against 45 last year, since two places - one of Umarpada and the other of Vankal which was amalgamated with Velachha—were reduced.

Documents, their receipts and expenditure

98. The following statement gives the number of documents received for registration, their aggregate value, and the gross receipts and expenditure of the Department for the years 1916-17 and 1917-18.

Year	Number of documents	Aggregate value	Gross receipts	Expenditure.
		Rs	Rs.	Rs
1916-17 ..	46,883	1,85,79,193	1,58,165	39,714
1917-18	44,058	2,00,37,379	1,55,856	43,528

Reason for less number of documents

99 It will be seen from these figures that during the year the number of documents received for registration was less by 2,825 than in the previous year. There was dire plague in all the parts of the State during several months of the year and the agricultural season too was not as prosperous as the last one owing to excessive rain. These circumstances account for the shortage in documents received for registration as well as in the gross receipts.

Reason for increase in expenditure

100. There was an increase of Rs. 3,814 in expenditure over the previous year, as the revision in the salaries of sub-registrars and their clerks came into full operation during the year.

101. The following is a detailed classification of documents received for registration under different heads during the year and the year preceding :—

Detailed classification.

Classes of documents.	1916–17.	1917–18.
Immoveable property—		
(i) Compulsory—		
Gifts	374	403
Sales	23,854	23,031
Mortgages with possession .	16,350	14,635
Mortgages without possession	2,504	2,137
Instruments of partition .	593	613
Leases above 3 years	825	782
Others	1,233	1,177
Total	45,733	42,778
(ii) Optional—		
Leases upto 3 years . . .	238	232
Wills and authorities to adopt . .	370	509
.. Total	608	741
Total of (i) and (ii) ..	46,341	43,519
Moveable property—		
(i) Compulsory—		
Money bonds above Rs. 1,000 . ..	46	56
(ii) Optional—		
Money bonds upto Rs. 1,000 .. .	93	85
Instruments of pledges with possession .	10	10
Instruments of pledges without possession	32	18
Divorce	53	42
Others	308	328
Total .	496	483
Total of (i) and (ii) ..	542	539
GRAND TOTAL ..	46,883	44,058

Out of 44,058 documents received for registration this year, 1,224 were of an optional nature, while the remaining 42,834 were compulsory. As many as 39,803 or nearly 90 per cent. of the total number related to mortgages and sales of immoveable property.

Inspection.

102. Eighteen offices of sub-registrars were inspected and 6 visited by the Personal Assistant.

G.—Joint Stock Companies and Benevolent Societies.

Joint Stock Companies

103. In the beginning of the year, there were 31 Joint Stock Companies on the Register and 3 more were registered during the year; but as one company, the Shree Sayajee Cotton Seeds and Oil Factory of Baroda, was closed, the total number of companies at the end of the year was 33. The three new companies were: The Mahendra Cotton Gin Press Co., Ltd., (Rs. 1,50,000), The Tiles and Pottery Works Co., Ltd., (Rs. 2,00,000), and the Laxmi Vilas Press Company, Ltd., (Rs. 8,414). The authorized, subscribed and paid-up capital of all these companies was Rs 1,34,15,664. Rs. 70,71,650 and Rs. 55,18,642, respectively. During the year, four companies were sent into liquidation against three in the previous year. No company reduced its capital, but two companies increased theirs: the Bank of Baroda, Ltd, increased it by Rs. 40,00,000 and the Tiles and Pottery Works Co., Ltd., by Rs. 1,00,000, thus bringing the total of the increased capital to Rs. 41,00,000. Of the thirty-three companies on the register at the end of the year, eleven companies were under liquidation, while twenty-two were working.

The balance sheets and members' lists were, as a rule, returned by the companies more regularly; but one company having failed to send them in time, was prosecuted under the Act.

104. In the previous year there were 14 Benevolent Societies registered under the Benevolent Societies' Act. Two new Societies, The Property Board of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the Baroda State and the *Bal Lagna Nishedhak Mandal*, were registered during the year. Out of these 16 Societies, nine were caste institutions regulating social customs, one was a Society for the promotion of industries among helpless women, one a Home for the destitute, three were for the encouragement of education among students, one for procuring land and estate for the Christian parsonages, mission premises, medical houses, etc., and one for the prevention of child marriages.

Benevolent Societies.

Four Benevolent Societies of the Kadi District were inspected during the year.

105. The total receipts for the year from both the Joint Stock Companies and Benevolent Societies amounted to Rs. 280, against Rs. 432 in the previous year.

Receipts

H.—Court of Wards.

106. The number of wards at the commencement of the year was 87. Superintendence was assumed over 7 new wards, while it was released over 20, leaving 74 wards at the end of the year.

Number of wards.

107. Arrangements for the education of the wards and management of their properties were carefully made as in the preceding years. The minor Mulubha of Monpur under Ratanpur Mahal continued to receive instruction in Revenue and Fozdari work in pursuance of the orders of the Naib Dewan.

Education of wards.

108. The toal value of the properties managed amounted to Rs. 14,40,943, and their annual income came to Rs. 1,31,489. Out of the total savings of the wards, which amounted to Rs. 1,98,668, Rs. 1,44,326 were deposited in the Baroda Bank, Rs. 4,843 in the Postal Savings Bank, Rs. 20,619 in shares of mills and other joint stock companies, and Rs. 28,880 remained as cash on hand.

Wards' properties

Steps were taken during the year under report, as in the past, to reduce the debts of the wards and to make their properties as productive as possible.

I—Religious and Charitable Institutions.

(ECCLESIASTICAL DEPARTMENT.)

109. This Department dates its origin since April 1917 with the following branches and activities placed under its control by the orders of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb :—

Creation and constitution of the new Department

(a) the Devasthan Department ;

(b) the regulation of charities and public charitable trusts ;

(c) Sanskrit Pathshalas, the Purohits' class and religious education in general ;

(d) Sanskrit and Oriental research ; the collection of old manuscripts and the publication of the Gaekwar Oriental Series ;

(e) public lectures on comparative religion and ancient Indian culture ; and

(f) Archæological research.

Mr. Jagdish Chandra Chatterji, B.A. (Cantab.), Vidyāvāridhi, continued during the year as Dharmadhyaksha and worked under the Sar Subah and the Joint Sar Subah as regards (a), (b) and the Purohits' class under (c) and under the Commissioner of Education as regards the other items under (c)

and (d). He worked in collaboration with the Huzur English Office so far as the work of the Archæological research was concerned Mr. Jamnadas Gangaram Mehta, B.A., held the office of the Principal Assistant to the Dharmadhyaksha.

Institutions under Government management.

110. The number of institutions under Government management stood at 44 as before. Two of these, giving doles to the poor and infirm, viz, Kedareshwar Khichadi for Hindus and Gyarmi for Mahomedans situated in the city of Baroda were under the direct management of the Head Office, while the rest were managed by the respective local officers. The total expenditure of these institutions was Rs. 67,334 against Rs. 66,276 in the preceding year, the increase being attributable to high prices.

Property of the institutions.

111. The moveable and immoveable property belonging to these institutions was worth Rs 18,91,447 against Rs. 19,46,266 in the preceding year.

Reserve and General Funds

112. There were two funds, viz, the Reserve Fund and the General Fund in the name of the Dharmadhyaksha (Devasthan Adhikari).

Name of Fund.	Amount in hand at the beginning of the year.	Contributions added during the year.	Total	Expenditure.	Balance at the close of the year.
	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs
General Fund ..	2,82,206	37,837	3,20,043	10,210	3,09,833
Reserve Fund .	1,974	5,022	6,996	3,094	3,902

Use of funds

113. The extraordinary expenses of all the institutions beyond the budget grants, chiefly those of substantial repairs to their buildings, are met from the Reserve Fund to which all contribute rateably, while the General Fund, which is made up of the net

savings of all the institutions, is intended for religious and charitable objects of public utility. Out of this latter fund, about Rs. 12,000 are spent every year on the maintenance of certain dispensaries in the Kadi District and Rs. 2,450 and Rs. 300 are contributed annually towards the expenses of the Orphanage at Amreli and the Maharani Chimnabai Saheb Maternity Relief at Baroda respectively. The balance of this fund stood at Rs. 3,09,833 at the end of the year, of which Rs. 1,97,926 were in the shape of Government of India conversion warrants and Rs. 30,000 in Ahmedabad Prantij Railway shares and Rs. 51,057 were advanced as loan. The rest of the balance, *viz.*, Rs. 30,850 was deposited in the Bank of Baroda.

Institutions under private management.

114. Religious and charitable institutions managed by private individuals under the general supervision of the State during the year under report numbered 3,964, enjoying an aggregate approximate grant of Rs. 2,93,696 in the form of Inami villages, Barkhali lands and cash allowances. Such of these institutions as have an annual income of Rs. 200 and upwards are required by the Charitable Endowments Act to get their budgets sanctioned by Government every five years. The managers of 138 such institutions have already tendered their budgets.

Itinerant religious preachers.

115. Seven itinerant religious preachers were already attached to certain temples in Baroda, Kadi and Amreli Districts and three more places, one of an Inspector to be trained at the Head Office and two of preachers, are sanctioned by Government as a tentative measure for two years, each place being of Rs. 50 monthly. Half the amount of their salaries is to be met from budgets of the temples of Yavteshwar, Sidheshwar and Bhuteshwar of Kadi District and the remaining half is ordered to be covered from the General Fund. Only

one of these places has been filled up for want of suitable men for the other two.

Assemblies for creating religious interests.

116. Assemblies in the form of religious Panchayats have been formed at Bhadran, Changa, Petlad, Vadnagar and Kheralu for creating an interest in matters religious among the people and for supervising the work of the Pujaris and other servants of the various temples at the different places.

Inspection, publication of books.

117. During the year, 64 institutions in the Baroda, Kadi and Navsari Districts were inspected, Gujarati translations of two books on the sacred thread ceremony and marriage ritual were in the press.

Public lectures on Religion, &c.

118. Four public lectures on comparative religion and ancient Indian culture were delivered in the State Library, Baroda, and others were delivered at Petlad, Dharmaj, Bhadran, Changa, Vadnagar, Kheralu and Billimora.

Working of the Act.

119. The Charitable Endowments Act, which has been enacted with a view to ensure proper administration of religious and charitable institutions, is meeting with increased acceptance and appreciation on the part of the people.

J.—Price Control.

Report of the Prices Inquiry Committee.

120. In November 1917, His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, with his accustomed solicitude for the welfare of his subjects, appointed a Committee consisting of Mr. R. C. Whitnack, M.A., President, Khan Bahadur J. Yusufali, Bar-at-Law, Mr. Manilal B. Nanawati, B.A., LL.B., Sheth Chimanlal Girdharlal Javerchand, Mr. Bapubhai Hirabhai Vaidya and Mr. S. M. Pagar, M.A., to inquire into the permanent and temporary causes of the increased prices of food-stuffs and other

necessaries, and to suggest practical remedial measures therefor. The report of this Committee was submitted in February 1918: and its principal recommendations were as follows :—

(1) that a Controller of Prices should be appointed with adequate powers and staff to keep wholesale and retail prices as near as possible to the cost level,

(2) that the cultivators in the cotton tract should be urged to produce food-stuffs at least sufficient for their own needs,

(3) that the dairy industry should be encouraged by the appointment of a special organizer,

(4) that the Bombay Excise Department should be approached with a view to increasing the supply of salt,

(5) that the Railway authorities should be approached with reference to the better distribution of food-stuffs,

(6) that a special scarcity allowance of Rs. 2 per mensem be granted to all Government servants drawing Rs. 30 and under; and Rs. 3 per mensem to all Government swars.

Acceptance of Committee's recommendations

121. The recommendations were approved by the Council and sanctioned by the Huzur in March with the modification that the scarcity allowance should be fixed at Rs. 2 per mensem for all Government servants drawing Rs. 30 and under, including swars. Mr. R. C. Whitnack, M.A., the Commissioner of Excise, Commerce and Agriculture, was appointed Price Controller, in addition to his other duties, and subsequently Mr. R. R. Pawar, B.A., LL.B., was appointed Deputy Price Controller, and the powers and establishment asked for by the Controller were sanctioned.

122. In his first report to Government, the Controller pointed out that the primary problem was one of *supply*, rather than of prices, since the production of food-stuffs in a normal year, *e.g.*, 1916-17, was only 54 per cent. of the estimated total consumption, owing to the cultivation of cotton, oil-seeds, tobacco and other money-fetching crops on a large proportion of the arable lands; and that approximately 5,00,000 Bengal maunds, or 18,370 tons of corn must needs be imported per mensem to maintain the normal supply of food-stuffs.

Deficit in production of food-stuffs and import requirements

123. The Controller then laid before Government an outline of policy and suggested that an effort should be made through the Railway authorities to secure better transport facilities; especially for the period from June to December, before the kharif crops were reaped. He next recommended a liberal system of advances at a low rate of interest (say 3 per cent.) to approved merchants who would undertake in the bond to sell at a regulated profit (say one anna per rupee on the turnover) and without interest to associations of public spirited citizens who would offer to establish grain shops and accept joint and several responsibility for the loans. In order to increase the local production of food-grains, he suggested that a direct appeal should be made to cultivators or that cultivation should be enforced or encouraged by bounties on increased acreage through the Panchayats. At the same time he recognised the necessity of placing some restriction on export of home-grown products in some selected commodities and of fixing prices as a last resource in rare instances, when a uniform cost price could be ascertained (*e.g.*, kerosene), or when the supply of a commodity could be stabilised by restrictions on exports, or when the Local Committees convinced the Controller of undue speculation and profiteering, or in the case of selected merchants to whom loans were granted.

Outline of policy.

This general policy was sanctioned and a sum of Rs. 2,00,00- placed at the disposal of the Controller for encouragement of imports, in the form of loans to merchants and grain shop associations.

Limitations on exports

124. While the policy of universal embargo was avoided as being repugnant to the traditions of the State and undesirable in view of the import requirements, restrictions were considered necessary so far as wheat was concerned and an export duty of 50 per cent. was levied on wheat from Amreli and Kadi Districts. Similarly local officers were empowered to restrict undue exports by rail of firewood. The peculiar situation and distressing condition of Okhamandal, however, required special measures and an embargo had to be placed on the export of all food-stuffs, fuel, kerosene, cloth and cotton seed.

Increased production of food-stuffs

125. Owing to the shortage of home production and difficulties of transport, several measures were suggested for increasing indigenous production of food-stuffs, such as remissions of assessment on the additional bighas brought under food-crops, bounties to Village Panchayats in proportion to the increase of acreage under food-crops, small bonuses to individual cultivators who excelled in the additional production of food-stuffs, and enforced cultivation of corn on a portion of each holding. These proposals being controversial, a special session of the Legislative Council was convened on 15th June for discussion; and Government, after mature deliberation, sanctioned Rs. 1,00,000 as bounties to Village Panchayats, in proportion to the increased acreage under food-stuffs in 1918-19, as compared with the previous five years. Cultivation of food-stuffs was freely allowed on all Government waste lands on payment of only half the assessment without liability to fines. Provision was made for liberal advance of Tagavi to cultivators for cultivation of

wheat throughout the State, for sinking of wells in Kadi District, and for putting up temporary bunds in Amreli District. Notifications were published giving a wide publicity to these facilities and calling attention to the deficit in home production of food-stuffs, the difficulties of transport, and the consequent necessity of increasing production.

Local and Central Price Committees.

126. The Municipal and Taluka Price Committees, under the Chairmanship of the Municipal Presidents and Vahivatdars respectively, did excellent service in calling attention to local needs, in carrying out the policy laid down by Government, in exercising control over the distribution and prices of salt, kerosene, etc. Among the Local Committees to be especially commended in this respect were those of Petlad, Vijapur, Amreli, Okhamandal, Patan, Sankheda, Padra and Dabhoi. A Central Advisory Committee was also appointed consisting of Rao Bahadur H. D. Kantawala of Baroda District, Mr. Pestonji Ratanji Daboo of Naosari District, Sheth Mahasukhbhai of Kadi District and Mr. Virjibhai Shivdas, Vakil of Amreli District.

Cheap Grain Shops.

127. The Department did not undertake the opening of cheap grain shops; but was entrusted with the distribution of a gift of Rs. 25,000 graciously granted by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb to wipe out losses of cheap grain shops opened under private auspices in various cities and towns. A portion of this fund was distributed during the year under review to the associations of Baroda, Petlad, Dabhoi, Amreli and Dhari. Several of the associations were assisted on request in the securing of grain and pulses. In this connection especial praise is due to the representatives of late Raj Ratna Sheth Naranbhai Keshavlal Parikh of Petlad, Sheth Keshrichand Bhanabhai of Billimora and Sheth Mahasukhbhai Chunilal of Visnagar for generous gifts in support of local grain shops. Acknowledgment should also be made in this place of a generous gift of

Rs. 3,500 to the Cheap Grain Shop Association of Baroda City on the part of Her Highness the Maharani Chimnabai Saheb from her private funds.

128. The local agent of the Asiatic Petroleum Company, Mr. Ratanji Jivanji Desai, kindly volunteered, on April 22nd, to open four shops in Baroda City for the retail sale of kerosene at fixed prices gazetted by the Controller, which resulted in an immediate heavy decline in the price of this commodity. Subsequently, other shops were opened by the local agents of Burma Oil Company and Standard Oil Company under the control of the Department.

Kerosene control

Effective arrangements of a similar nature were also made in Naosari town, during April, under the personal influence of the Suba, Mr. Ramlal H. Desai.

On 30th May, the Controller visited the offices of the four oil companies (Asiatic Petroleum Company, Indo-Burma Petroleum Company, Burma Oil Company and Standard Oil Company) at Bombay, and arranged for a considerable increase in the allotments of kerosene to their respective agencies within the State, and for the notification of fixed wholesale prices. Very little complaint was heard subsequently either as to quantities available or the prices, except in a few isolated cases, as at Petlad and Amreli, where the agencies were located in foreign territory.

At the end of the year under review, when the failure of the monsoon appeared imminent, special arrangements were begun for the supply of kerosene to pumps used in irrigation throughout the State; and the Vahivatdars were instructed to ascertain the number of pumps and the kerosene requirements therefor.

129. On the advice of the Assistant Controller of Petrol, our Price Controller undertook to verify the indents, collect the tax, and license

Petrol control.

a dealer for Baroda City. Accordingly an agent was appointed for Baroda and the prices were fixed from June 1918, and since then Baroda has been receiving ample supplies of petrol as compared with those allowed to Bombay consumers, the average per car being 20 gallons per month; the local price was also brought down from Rs. 8-10-0 per gallon to Rs. 2-6-0.

Salt control.

130. The question of current supplies of salt was originated at the time of the conference at the Baroda Residency, on 15th April 1918, between Mr. Russell, the Resident, the Minister and the Price Controller, regarding the question of permitting the export of salt from Okhamandal to British India. The price of salt had gone abnormally high because of the shortage of supply. The Controller ascertained the requirements of salt in the districts and arrangements were made for obtaining it from the usual sources with the sanction of the Government of India.

On the 10th July, the whole question of salt, including the import of Okhamandal salt into British India and the question of current supplies, was taken up in a conference at Ahmedabad with Mr. Arthur, Salt Commissioner of Bombay, and the problem of current supplies was solved by arranging for definite allotments at each salt agency within the State, and the fixation of wholesale prices at each agency.

The Government expresses its gratitude to the Bombay Salt Administration for the generous way in which they have increased the allotments, on request, and supplied all the requisite information for making the control of prices effective. But the only regret is that the Bombay Administration have not met the wishes of His Highness' Government respecting the import of Okhamandal salt into British India with equal liberality.

Transport.

131. The most important and most difficult task of the Department was the attainment of control over rail-borne imports of food-stuffs into

the State. Transport was from the outset recognised as the key to the problem of food-control. The Controller interviewed on 29th May 1918 Messrs. Woolcombe and Pechey, Agent and General Traffic Manager, respectively, of the B. B. & C. I. Railway and learned of the existence of priority arrangements for internal traffic in India, and the appointment of Directors of Civil Supplies, dating from April, embracing within their scope all British Provinces and the States of Hyderabad and Mysore. The Government of India was accordingly addressed and the same facilities as had been granted to the British Provinces, Hyderabad and Mysore were secured for Baroda and the Price Controller was recognised as the Director of Civil Supplies. From this event the beginnings of effective control over imports and prices of food-stuffs may be dated; but the full result thereof will form a feature of the next Administration Report.

CHAPTER III.

FINANCE.

1. Mr. A. N. Datar, B.A., LL.B., A.M., (Columbia) held the office of the Accountant-General for the whole year, except for a period of seventy days, when Mr Jethabhai N. Patel acted as Accountant-General.

Personnel.

2. There were nine branches in the Department under the three-fold functions of audits, accounts and finance, instead of ten as stated in the last year's report.

Functions.

3. From the first of October 1917, the pre-audit system was introduced in the city of Baroda and the Military branch of the Department was amalgamated with the new pre-audit branch from that date, the Huzur Treasury Office was abolished and the Stamp branch and the work of compiling the accounts of tribute (Ghasdana and Jamabandi) due to His Highness' Government from the several tributaries under the Mahikantha, Revakantha, Palanpur and Kathiawar agencies have been transferred to the Main branch.

Changes in the organization

4. The Main branch is the central controlling office of the department under the direct supervision of the Accountant-General helped by an assistant. All important matters involving questions bearing directly or indirectly on the finances of the State are disposed of in this branch, in addition to the work now transferred as a result of the changes mentioned above. The work of transacting business with the leading banks in Bombay is also done in this branch. The transactions with the Bank of Bombay and seven other Banks amounted to Rs. 75,66,793 in remittances and Rs. 82,76,524 in withdrawals. The

The Main branch.

following statement shows the demand, collections and arrears of tribute during the year under report :—

Demand, Collection and Arrears of tribute due to His Highness' Government.

No.	NAME.	Arrears at the end of the last year	Demands for the year under report	Total.	Actual realizations during the year.	Balance at the end of the year.	Surplus Recovery.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Rs a p	Rs a. p	Rs a p	Rs a. p	Rs. a. p	Rs a. p
1	Rewa Kantha	59,350 0 8	1,31,072 7 7	1,90,422 8 3	1,32,943 14 3	57,478 10 0	
2	Mahi Kantha	2,35,088 4 2	1,41,171 2 4	3,76,259 6 6	1,36,454 0 8	2,39,805 5 10	
	Interest	293 9 4	657 1 8	950 11 0	657 1 8	293 9 4	.
3	Kathiawar	4,47,090 4 11	2,95,338 4 0	7,38,428 8 11	3,80,593 15 11	3,61,834 9 0	.
4	Palanpur .	95,465 14 3	44,179 4 2	1,39,645 2 5	42,810 0 10	96,835 1 7	.
	Interest .	...	5 4 0	5 4 0	5 4 0	....	....
5	Miagam .	9,874 15 1	6,769 8 9	16,644 7 10	9,874 15 1	6,769 8 9	..
	Interest	.	464 14 8	464 14 8	464 14 8	...	
	Total .	8,46,869 7 1	6,18,530 10 10	14,65,400 1 11	7,02,676 14 9	7,62,723 3 2	
	Total of Interest .	293 9 4	1,127 4 4	1,420 13 8	1,127 4 4	293 9 4	....
	GRAND TOTAL ..	8,47,163 0 5	6,19,657 15 2	14,66,820 15 7	7,03,804 3 1	7,63,016 12 6	...

5. The work of compiling the final accounts of the State from the monthly statements received from the pre-audit branch as well as the monthly accounts received from the Taluka and other treasuries is done in the Compilation of Accounts branch under the direction of the Assistant Accountant-General, Main branch.

Compilation of Accounts branch.

6. The Civil Audit branch, which is also under the supervision of the Main branch, examines all vouchers excepting those relating to the Public Works, the Railways and the Military departments on the post-audit system.

Civil Audit branch.

7. The Stamp branch, which has now been placed under the main branch, reports that the revenue realised from the sale of stamps was Rs. 7,12,890 against Rs. 7,18,183 last year.

The Stamp branch.

8. The pre-audit system, introduced in the city of Baroda from the 1st of October 1917, required the formation of a separate branch under an assistant for checking all bills, etc., in the first instance before authorising payments. Some of the establishment from the Huzur Treasury and the Military Audit branch, which were abolished, was made over to this new branch. The transactions during the year amounted to Rs. 7,23,02,929 on both sides of the accounts.

Pre-Audit branch.

9. The Inspection branch inspects the accounts of all departments except the Military, the Public Works and the Railways by actually taking stock of treasure and scrutinizing local accounts. The assistant in charge of this branch inspected 80 offices during the year.

Inspection branch.

10. The Local Boards Inspection branch supervised by two auditors, examined the accounts of District and Taluka Local Boards and also of the District Municipalities and the Vishistha Panchayats.

Local Boards Inspection branch.

Public Works Audit branch.

11. The Public Works Audit branch is in charge of an assistant who exercises audit control over the Public Works Department, the Baroda City Municipality, the Baroda City Improvement Trust and the State Furniture Workshops.

Railway Audit branch.

12. The Railway Audit branch, controlled by an assistant designated the Examiner of Accounts for State Railways, has to audit the accounts of lines that are working as well as of those that are under construction. A small staff of this office is kept at Ajmer to audit the receipts on the open lines.

Pensions and Gratuities

13. In the Civil departments 195 new pensions were sanctioned and 64 ceased through death. At the close of the year, the total number of civil pensioners stood at 1,185 drawing an aggregate annual pension of Rs. 2,73,001 ; gratuities amounting to Rs. 3,438 were awarded to 53 persons during the year. In the Military department 31 new pensions were sanctioned and 49 ceased through death, the number of pensioners at the end of the year being 896 drawing an aggregate annual pension of Rs. 75,338. The gratuities amounted to Rs. 9,014 and were paid to 43 men.

The Budget

14. The Accountant-General receives from different departments the statements of estimated receipts and expenditure for the succeeding year by the end of January. They are then scrutinized and the budget is submitted to Government by the middle of April so as to leave about 12 to 14 weeks for consideration. It is the duty of the Accountant-General to watch the increase or decrease in the revenue and expenditure, to see that no wasteful expenditure is incurred and to advise Government generally on all questions directly or indirectly affecting the finances of the State.

15. The total receipts and disbursements during the year as compared with those of the previous year are given in the following statements :—

Total receipts and disbursements

Receipts.

No	Heads of receipts.	1916–17	1917–18.	Increase	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs.
1	Land Revenue	1,20,24,543	1,14,36,811	..	5,87,732
2	Miscellaneous and Taxes	2,08,476	2,40,920	32,444	..
3	Forests ..	2,47,967	3,24,171	76,204	.
4	Abkari ..	22,89,660	26,60,042	3,70,382	.
5	Customs ..	1,31,281	1,93,421	62,140	.
6	Stamps ..	7,18,183	7,12,890	..	5,293
7	Registration	1,58,534	1,56,090	..	2,444
8	Tribute and fixed Jama bandi received through the Residency ..	5,82,164	7,03,804	1,21,640	..
9	Tribute and fixed Jama bandi received direct	9,829	14,720	4,891	..
10	Interest ..	9,31,509	10,02,254	70,745	..
11	Village Board Revenue	16,287	11,372	..	4,915
12	Opium ..	5,34,503	5,33,765	..	738
13	Railways ..	10,38,341	11,09,763	71,422	.
14	Irrigation ..	34,092	17,418	..	16,674
15	Palace ..	.	. ..	..	
16	Judicial Fees and Fines	1,18,232	82,058	..	36,174
17	Jail	26,814	18,648	..	8,130
18	Education ..	1,34,927	1,33,660	..	1,267
19	Municipalities .	12	60	48	.
20	Public Works	4,89,721	2,19,625	..	2,70,096
21	Miscellaneous (including Ferries, Police, General Administration, &c) .	5,16,004	7,14,523	1,98,519	..
	Total .	2,02,11,079	2,02,86,051	10,08,435	9,33,463

Disbursements.

No.	Heads of disbursements.	1916-17.	1917-18.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5.	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Land Revenue	20,73,011	20,36,542		36,469
2	Other Establishments ..	1,96,586	1,70,615	.	25,971
3	Forests	84,802	87,040	2,238	.
4	Stamps	38,949	47,400	8,451	.
5	Registration	39,817	43,931	4,114	..
6	Tribute, etc., received through the Residency ..	....	16	16	..
7	Tribute, etc, received direct	292	78	..	214
8	Opium	1,16,386	63,674		52,712
9	Railways .. .	...	...	.	..
10	Palace	20,14,357	18,15,813		1,98,544
11	Huzur Raj Karbhar—				
	(a) Touring Expenses .	3,727	.	.	3,727
	(b) Huzur Kutcherries ..	6,19,785	7,33,815	1,14,030	.
12	Judicial . . .	4,04,806	3,84,022	.	20,784
13	Police	8,64,425	8,42,542	.	21,883
14	Jail	67,545	69,530	1,985	..
15	Education . . .	20,43,086	22,82,887	2,39,801	.
16	Medical .. .	3,09,359	3,58,987	49,628	..
17	Printing Press	81,720	81,356	..	364
18	Local Boards, etc., 25/A ..	4,70,938	5,75,496	1,04,558	..
19	Municipalities	3,871	2,000	..	1,871
20	Public Works .. .	26,14,059	20,90,459	..	5,23,600
21	Army	19,14,199	17,70,065	..	1,44,134
22	Devasthan-Dharmadaya .	2,42,230	2,43,318	1,088	..
23	Assamdars, Nemnookdars .	5,33,061	5,33,927	866	..
24	Pensioners	2,24,755	2,62,200	37,445	.
25	Marriages in the Royal Family	275	2,70,000	2,69,725	..
26	Extraordinary including Famine, etc. .. .	79,795	6,501	..	73,294
27	Miscellaneous including Interest, Ferries, Irrigation, etc.	4,86,899	41,74,335	36,87,436	..
	Total ..	1,55,28,735	1,89,46,549	45,21,381	10,03,567

16. The main heads which showed appreciable increase under receipts were :—

Increase under receipts.

Miscellaneous and taxes.—Rs. 32,444, due mostly to the revision of income-tax assessment.

Forests.—Rs. 76,204, due to the high prices realised in the sale of forest produce.

Abkari.—Rs. 3,70,382, due to the increase in duty rates of liquor and the tree tax of date and palm trees, the larger consumption of Alembic "foreign liquor," &c.

Customs.—Rs. 62,140, due to the greater out-turn of, and consequent realisations of, a larger amount of excise duties from the mills at Baroda and also to the levy of customs duty on certain articles in the Amreli district.

Tribute and fixed Jamabandi received through the Residency.—Rs. 1,21,640, due to the fact that some arrears were received from the Palanpur and the Kathiawar Agencies in the year as also to the adjustment of Rs. 60,000 written off out of the tribute due from the Kathiawar agency for Samvats 1956 and 1958.

Interest—Rs. 70,745, due to the increased investments of our funds.

Railways.—Rs. 71,422—due to the opening of Masar Road-Jambusar and Unai-Kalamba Railway lines and to the general development in the traffic.

Miscellaneous, including Ferries, Police, General Administration, etc.—Rs. 1,98,519—This represents the nominal gain earned in the purchase of the first Indian War Loan at the rate of 95 per cent.

17. The heads which showed appreciable decrease under receipts were—

Decrease under receipts.

Land Revenue.—Rs. 5,87,732—due to the fact that the actual amount realised in satisfaction of past arrears was very much larger in 1916-17 as compared with the year under report.

Irrigation.—Rs. 16,674—due to the fact that old arr-were realised in 1916-17.

Judicial fees and fines.—Rs. 36,174—due to the smaller civil and criminal file.

Jail.—Rs. 8,130—due to some items of income having not been adjusted during the year.

Public Works.—Rs. 2,70,096.—The decrease is apparent when compared with the last year's figure as the amounts spent on famine works in Amreli district were adjusted in the previous year and also to other ordinary causes.

Increase under disbursements.

18. The main heads which showed appreciable increase under disbursements were the following :—

Stamps.—Rs. 8,451—due to the payment of the cost of stamp paper for the years 1916-17 and 1917-18 having been made together during the year.

Huzur Raj Karbhar.—Rs. 1,14,030—due to the heavy bill of the solicitors' charges in Okhamandal Reef Case and the transfer of certain items of expenditure to this head from other heads.

Education.—Rs. 2,39,801—due to the opening of several institutions, *viz.*, the Secondary Teachers' Training College, the Vernacular School Final Class. &c., and also to the addition of some new professorial posts in the College, and of a Kindergarten specialist.

Medical.—Rs. 49,628—due to the enhanced cost of medicines, surgical instruments, &c.

Local Boards.—Rs. 1,04,558—due to the transfer of certain minor works of the Public Works Department to the Local Boards and the consequent transfer of the requisite amount of money from the Public Works Department to the Local Boards.

Pensioners.—Rs. 37,445—due to the increase in the number of pensioners.

Marriage in the Royal Family.—Rs. 2,69,725—due to the celebration of Princess Indumati Devi's Marriage in April 1918.

Miscellaneous, including Interest, Irrigation, Ferries, &c.—Rs. 36,87,436—due to the War contributions and the adjustment in the conversion of 3½ per cent. stock into 5 per cent. War Loan Bonds as well as to certain charitable grants made to several institutions.

19. The heads showing appreciable decrease under disbursements were .—

Decrease under disbursements.

Land Revenue.—Rs. 36,469—due to the abolition of the posts of village Havaldars in the districts of Kadi, Navsari and Amreli, and other minor causes.

Other establishments.—Rs 25,971—mainly due to the following causes:—

(1) During the year 1916-17, certain Government dues from some Abkari contractors were written off.

(2) The customs duties of the City of Baroda for February and March 1910 were paid to the City Municipality in 1916-17.

Opium.—Rs. 52,712—due to the smaller yield of opium juice this year.

Palace.—Rs. 1,98,544—due to the curtailment of the Khangi Budget.

Judicial.—Rs. 20,784—due to the smaller expenditure on account of the salaries of some of the newly appointed officers in place of those who retired and used to draw higher salaries and also to the transfer of some items to other heads.

Police.—Rs. 21,883—due to no expenditure having been incurred on account of the purchase of arms and ammunition during the year.

Public Works.—Rs. 5,23,600—due to the transfer of a portion of the budget to the Local Boards on account of certain smaller works now entrusted to them for management and

to the adjustments made last year in the accounts of famine expenditure.

Army.—Rs. 1,44,134—due to the amalgamation of the staff office with the Senapati office, increased number of vacancies in rank and file, transfer of Shilledars to other departments, etc.

Extraordinary, including Famine, etc.—Rs. 73,294—due to the adjustments of very old famine expenditure having been made during 1916-17.

Financial condition of the State.

20. The following table shows the financial condition of the State at the close of the year as compared with that of the previous year :—

Statement showing Assets and Liabilities of the State.

Year.	Assets.			Liabilities.	Net assets exclusive of opium and opium juice.
	Cash Balances.	Investments including amounts spent on Railways and reproductive Public Works.	Total.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1916–17 ..	58,33,627	5,77,92,589	6,36,26,216	39,26,982	5,96,99,234
1917–18 ..	61,32,667	6,10,17,803	6,71,50,470	61,11,676	6,10,38,794

Expenditure on Railways and reproductive Public Works.

21. The State has up till now invested about two crores and sixty-two lakhs in Railways, and the receipts under this head amounted to Rs.11,09,763. But the 47 lakhs expended on reproductive Public Works like irrigation yielded only a small sum of Rs. 17,418 during the year.

22. The statement given above will indicate that the financial position of the Raj was stronger in the year under report by about 14 lakhs as compared with last year. The reserve of the State in the form of liquid assets in the form of Government paper was augmented by about 20 lakhs. The State purchased the Second Indian War Loan worth Rs. 30 lakhs, but as the old stock of 3½ per cent. and 4 per cent. Government paper was converted into 5 per cent. War Loan at 76 per cent. and 92 per cent., respectively, the liquid assets may be said to have actually increased by twenty lakhs only.

Financial strength of the State.

23. In addition to the regular work of the Department, the Accountant-General had a seat, as a nominated member, in the State Legislative Council and, as an extra member, in the State Executive Council.

Additional work.

24. The following statement will show the out-turn of work done by the Accounts Department during the year under report :—

Out-turn of work done.

Name of Branch.	Matters disposed of	Vouchers examined during the year	Sums recovered in audit inspection.
1	2	3	4
			Rs a. p.
Main Branch (including Post-audit Branch)	1,15,909	81,700	2,670 0 1
Pre-audit Branch	2,879	34,101	7,719 5 6
Public Works (Accounts Branch) . ..	6,399	31,843	5,525 2 8
Railway Branch	5,918	4,667	677 15 0
Inspection Branch	2,156	....	770 3 3
Local Boards Inspection Branch	1,895	6,573	534 13 8
Total ..	1,35,156	1,58,884	17,897 8 2

CHAPTER IV.

REVENUE AND SETTLEMENT.

A.–Land Revenue Proper.

(*a*) ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

Personnel.

1. The post of the Sar Suba was held during the whole year by Mr. G. R. Nimbalkar, B.A., and that of the Naib Sar Suba by Mr. Chhotalal Babarbhai Patel, B.A.

Touring done by the Sar Suba.

2. The Sar Suba travelled for 104 days and visited 13 Mahals and 56 villages. He minutely examined two Mahal offices and one sub-divisional office. He also inspected the 'Daftars' of about 55 Talatis and 5 Tajvijdars. Over and above this, he visited about 8 temples and public institutions.

Territorial Divisions.

3. The territorial divisions and sub-divisions continued unchanged.

Subas and their touring.

4. Rao Bahadur R. N. Joglekar, Shrimant Sampatrao Gaekwad, Bar.-at-Law, Mr. Ramlal H. Desai, B.A., LL.B., and Mr. N. K. Aloni, B.A., Bar.-at-Law, continued to work as Subas of Baroda, Kadi, Navsari and Amreli respectively during the whole year. The touring done by the Subas of Kadi, Amreli and Navsari was more than the minimum laid down by rules; the Suba of Baroda, however, fell short of 20 days, as his presence was required at Baroda for some time first on account of the recruiting riots and later on account of the arrangements in connection with the 'Punchayat Parishad' and the marriage of Princess Indumati Devi.

(b) GENERAL CONDITION.

5. The following table gives the distribution of rainfall during the year, as compared with that of the preceding year and the decennial average :—

Rainfall.

Name of the District.	Decennial average.	Rainfall in 1916-17.	Rainfall in 1917–18.
Baroda	38 24	39·84	60·47
Kadi	26·22	25 30	43·22
Navsari	51·70	54·64	71·70
Amreli	23 00	25·30	36 00

The rainfall was heavier than that of the preceding year and the decennial average.

6. The following is a comparative statement of the yield of principal crops in annas :—

Yield of crops.

Name of the District.	Rice		Bajri.		Juvar.		Cotton.	
	1916–17	1917–18	1916–17	1917–18	1916–17	1917–18	1916–17	1917–18
Baroda	10	6	8	3	9	6	9	7
Kadi	..	5¼	11½	2	8½	2½	7½	8⅔
Navsari .. .	10	10	9	5	8	6	12	9
Amreli .. .	10	10	12	5	10	4	10	9

It will thus be seen that the untimely and excessive rains damaged most of the crops.

7. The following table gives the prices of food-stuffs prevailing during the year under report, as compared with those of the preceding

Prices of food-stuffs.

year. The figures represent the number of lbs. sold for a rupee :—

Name of the District.	Rice.		Bajri.		Juvar.		Pulse.		Wheat.	
	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18
Baroda .	12	10	20	12	25	17	21	16	15	12
Kadi ..	13	8	35	14	30	16	17	14	18	13
Navsari ..	14	12	18	11	24	11	15	12	14	10
Amreli ..	13	9	22	11	31	15	19	11	19	9

The smaller yield due to heavy and untimely rains, and the difficulty of transport due to war conditions were responsible for these high prices.

(c) LAND REVENUE.

Number of Government and alienated villages.

8. The number of Government and alienated villages was as under :—

Name of the District.	Government villages	Alienated villages.	Total.
Baroda	781½	65	846½
Kadi	1,067½	83½	1,151
Navsari	944	39	983
Amreli	271	25	296
Total ..	3,064	212½	3,276½

The resumption by Government of the alienated villages of Morvad and Kolawada in the Kadi District accounts for the increase in the number of Government villages and a corresponding decrease in the alienated villages.

9. The area of land in the four districts was as follows :—

Area of land in each district.

Name of the District.	Area of land in Bighas.	
	1916-17.	1917-18.
Baroda	20,90,718	20,90,888
Kadi	32,91,023	32,92,001
Navsari	16,13,015	16,14,475
Amreli	14,72,524	14,72,533
Total ..	84,67,280	84,79,897

The increase in the Kadi District was due to the Revision Survey operations and that in the Navsari District to the supplementary 'Fesal Patraks'. The increase in the Amreli District being small does not call for any special remarks, while that in the Baroda District was due to the conversion of the variable *kumbha* measure into bighas in some of the villages.

10. The following table gives in bighas the area of land relinquished and that of land brought under cultivation during the year, as compared with the preceding :—

Land relinquished and that brought under cultivation.

Name of the District.	1916-17.		1917-18.	
	Land relinquished	Land brought under cultivation.	Land relinquished	Land brought under cultivation.
Baroda	100	5,952	329	8,230
Kadi	3,552	35,319	2,134	49,770
Navsari .. .	47	2,838	42	717
Amreli	7,476	9,989	6,084	16,417
Total ..	11,175	54,098	8,589	75,134

The net result was that more land remained under cultivation during the year than in the preceding. Owing to high prices fetched by cotton and other products, there has been a general tendency on the part of the people to take up new lands for cultivation.

Transfer of land.

11. Statistics of transfer of land are as follows :—

Mode of transfer.	1916-17.		1917-18.	
	Persons.	Bighas.	Persons.	Bighas.
Inheritance	7,604	1,17,972	8,101	1,32,255
Partition	46	388	60	830
Gift and exchange ..	93	1,063	116	1,186
Mortgage	247	1,339	202	1,144
Redemption ..	27	121	31	191
Sale	10,941	84,448	12,033	1,03,008
Other causes .. .	935	8,458	882	10,477
Total .	19,893	2,13,789	21,425	2,49,091

The number of sale transactions has increased, as compared with that of the preceding year.

Demand and collection.

12. The following table gives the demand and realization of land revenue due to Government, as compared with the preceding year :—

Name of the District	1916-17.		Percentage	1917-18		Percentage.
	Demand.	Collection.		Demand	Collection.	
	Rs.	Rs		Rs	Rs.	
Baroda .	43,23,545	42,80,545	99 01	47,06,959	46,66,230	99 13
Kadi ..	36,15,498	35,62,409	98 53	37,89,027	37,31,590	98 00
Navsari .	19,00,306	18,91,572	99 54	18,89,862	18,79,688	99·46
Amreli ..	9,61,505	9,39,980	97·76	9,74,389	9,59,461	99·00
Huzur Treasury	29,903	29,903	100 00	34,730	34,730	100·00
Total	1,08,30,757	1,07,04,409	98 97	1,13,94,967	1,12,71,699	98·92

The percentage of collections was a trifle less than the preceding year.

13. The outstanding arrears at the close of the year, as compared with the year preceding, were :—

Past arrears.

Name of the District.	At the close of 1916-17.	At the close of 1917-18.
	Rs	Rs.
Baroda	1,30,790	7,759
Kadi	14,37,196	5,76,335
Navsari	5,677	4,180
Amreli	1,79,601	2,11,739
Total ..	17,53,264	8,00,013

Thus in all the districts, except Amreli, the amount of past arrears has considerably decreased, while in Amreli the increase was due to the partial failure of the *kharif* crops.

14. The following comparative statement will show that coercive measures were employed on a very much smaller scale than in the preceding year and yet the realisations of old and current revenues were very satisfactory :—

Coercive measures

Measures.	1916-17.	1917-18.
Fines	142	69
Sales of land	527	112
Sales of immoveable property other than land	241	95
Sales of moveable property	172	134
Arrests	166	31
Attachment of "Sarkari" lands	1,818	999
Attachment of Barkhali lands	23	6
Resumptions and forfeitures	133	160
Total ..	3,222	1,606

Even the issue of notices, which can hardly come under the head of coercive measures, shows a decline from 41,712 to

38,615. The only item which shows a rise, and a small rise is that of resumptions and forfeitures and calls for no special remark.

(*d*) LOCAL CESS.

15. The following table gives the demand and collection of local cess during the year as compared with the preceding year :—

Demand and collection.

Name of the District.	1916-17.		Per-centage.	1917-18.		Per-centage.
	Demand.	Collection.		Demand.	Collection.	
	Rs	Rs		Rs.	Rs	
Baroda	3,08,246	3,05,297	99·04	3,18,066	3,08,842	97·09
Kadi	2,21,115	2,18,158	98·80	2,31,117	2,38,150	Over collection.
Navsari	1,36,468	1,35,278	99·12	1,39,405	1,37,596	98·74
Amreli	82,557	78,829	95·48	75,477	74,223	99 00
Total ..	7,48,386	7,37,862	98·11	7,64,065	7,58,811	99·31

Excepting Amreli, which showed a slight decrease, there was in all the other districts an increase both in demand and collection.

(*e*) INCOME TAX.

16. The following table shows the demand and realization of income-tax during the year as compared with the year preceding :—

Demand and collection.

Name of the District	1916-17.		Per-centage.	1917-18.		Per-centage.
	Demand.	Collection.		Demand.	Collection.	
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs	Rs.	
Baroda	94,329	88,288	93 60	1,04,237	96,597	92·67
Kadi	35,150	34,943	99·41	44,515	43,243	97·00
Navsari	14,804	14,711	99·37	16,838	16,449	97·69
Amreli	8,633	8,123	95·34	17,546	16,620	95·00
Total ..	1,52,916	1,46,173	96·93	1,83,136	1,72,909	94·41

There was an increase both in demand and collection in all the districts.

B.—Attached Estates.

Number of estates and causes of their attachment

17. The following table shows the number of estates under attachment at the beginning and close of the year under report and the causes which led to the attachment :—

Causes of attachment.	Number of estates under attachment at the beginning of the year.	Number of estates under attachment at the close of the year.
Under Guardian and Wards Act (number of estates and not of wards)	87	84
Mortgaged to Government for loans ..	91	42
Attached for arrears of revenue .. .	26	24
Attached owing to disputes among holders	20	21
Attached owing to mismanagement of temples	37	40
Attached pending mutation of names ..	24	17
Attached for protection of Government shares	4	4
Attached as properties of temples under Government management	11	11
Attached for other reasons	44	48
Total ..	344	291

The number of estates newly attached and released from attachment was 28 and 81 respectively. The main variation in the form of decrease was in the number of estates released from attachment under the head of mortgages to Government for loans. The other variations were of a trifling nature.

Demand and collection of attached estates.

18. The following table shows the number of estates under attachment, their annual demand, realizations and arrears for the year under report as compared with the year preceding :—

Year.	Number of Estates	Demand.			Collection			Arrears.			Over collection.
		Past.	Current	Total.	Past	Current	Total	Past.	Current.	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1916–17	344	4,79,199	4,75,891	9,55,090	77,436	4,33,182	5,10,568	4,08,465	44,406	4,47.871	3,849
1917–18	291	3,96,702	4,50,486	8,47,188	38,186	4,07,612	4,45,748	3,60,714	44,255	4,04,969	3,579

19. The following table shows the number of years for which the several estates continued under attachment.

Number of estates and period of attachment.

Under one year	The number of estates under attachment for more than							Total.
	One year.	Two years.	Three years.	Four years.	Five years.	Ten years.	Fifteen years.	
23	33	25	23	16	83	44	44	291

C—Compensation.

20. The Revenue Naib Subas, in the Kadi, Navsari and Amreli districts and the two officers, specially appointed for the work in the Baroda district, continued to do the compensation work as in the preceding year. Similarly the Railway compensation work in the Baroda and Kadi districts was done by the Special Officer appointed for the purpose. Of these the additional Special Officer sanctioned in February 1916, to take up the old cases of Dabhoi and Karjan Mahals continued to do that work till 11th May 1918, when his office was discontinued, and the remaining work transferred to the Railway Compensation Officer. The other special compensation officer of the Baroda district will hereafter attend only to the disposal of old cases, as all new work will from 1st August 1918 go to the divisional Naib Subas, as in the other districts, since Government has laid down that a special compensation officer should be appointed only when a large number of cases, not less than 50, crops up at one and the same time.

Arrangement of work.

21. The subjoined statement will show the compensation work done during the last two years :—

Work done.

Name of the District.	Number of cases.	Area of land compensated for.		Kothali Santh.	Amount of award.	Area of land given in exchange.		Amount awarded for property other than land.
		Bighas.	Square Feet.			Bighas.	Square feet.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				Rs.	Rs.			Rs.
Baroda	1,570	2,223	89,931	54	1,19,956	672	21,166	28,030
Kadi	376	1,836	16,750	..	8,608	14	....	2,776
Navsari	70	46	13,126	..	1,803	....	4,736	2,126
Amreli	128	175	45,076	..	4,088	....	3,129	343
Total ..	2,144	4,280	1,64,883	54	1,34,455	686	29,031	33,275
Total for 1916–17 ..	2,486	2,393	3,82,720	27	75,740	72	24,46,672	27,524

D.—Boundaries.

Personnel.

22. Mr. Baburao Raoji Chavan continued to be in charge of the Boundary Office under the Sar Suba till the 25th of February 1918, when Mr. L. G. Ghanekar, B.A., succeeded him for the rest of the year. The strength of the permanent establishment remained unaltered and Mr. L. D. Korde, B.A., continued as Simada Kamdar.

Work of the year; and causes for diminution.

23. The following statement will show the important work done by this branch as compared with the previous year:—

Description of the Work.	1916-17.	1917-18.
Boundaries verified	65	31
,, settled	1	7
,, surveyed	70	40
Disputes settled with British Districts ..	44	....
Cases conducted in the Boundary Commissioner's Court	8	....
Foreign boundaries examined	189	106
Taluka records examined	8	2
Copies of maps supplied to other offices ..	135	152
Copies of field-books supplied to other offices	70	117

The British Settlement Commissioner under some misconception of the British Land Revenue Code, which has since been cleared, prevented his District Agricultural Inspectors from working with our Head Surveyor with the result that the work of surveying boundaries and settling disputes with the

British Districts came to a standstill. The diminution of work under other heads was due to the existence of plague in a large number of villages and outlawry in Kathiawar which caused panic amongst the people and consequently entailed delay in the conduct of field work.

Progress of other important work with foreign jurisdiction.

24. There were 3 boundary cases pending disposal in the Court of the Boundary Commissioner, as also the demarcation by him of the 7 Jaspur cases which have already been finally decided.

The question of the general verification of the Baroda-British frontier has, under the orders of the Government of Bombay, been held over till after the close of the war.

In the Monpur-Vala-Bhavnagar boundary case, the Government of Bombay reversed in 1916 their orders passed in our favour in 1904 and His Highness' Government have represented the matter to the Government of India.

Verification work with the adjoining Indian States, British Districts and Political Agencies continued to be satisfactory.

Verification of the Baroda boundary frontier was finished during the year under report.

E.—Railway Demarcation.

Railway Demarcation Officer.

25. The post of the Railway Demarcation Officer continued to be held by Mr. Dorab T. Pavri, L.C.E., during the whole of the year except when he was on a month's privilege leave.

Mileage demarcated.

26. The total length demarcated during the year was about 28½ miles; besides 38 miles of the Harij and Bechraji lines were carefully trolleyed over with the Railway Assistant Engineer to ascertain the amount of land that could be relinquished from these two lines.

27. The following table will show the amount of land relinquished, etc., during the year as compared with the figures of two preceding years :—

Land relinquished and proposed to be relinquished.

Year.	Land relinquished in bighas.	Land agreed to be relinquished in bighas.	Land proposed to be given up.
1915-16	753	...	..
1916-17	247	388	226
1917-18	388	649	203

F.—Excise.

28. The Department of Customs, Salt, Opium and Abkari was under the control of the Excise Commissioner. Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, B.A., LL.B., continued to be in charge of the Department from the beginning of the year till 24th September 1917, when Mr. Maneklal S. Desai relieved him and remained in charge till 4th December 1917; Mr. R. C. Whitnack, M.A., succeeded him and held charge of the Department for the rest of the year.

Personnel.

29. The Excise Revenue was derived from the manufacture and sale of country and foreign liquor and from licenses for the sale of toddy and intoxicating and poisonous drugs.

Sources of Revenue

30. The system in force for the manufacture and supply of country liquor is what is known as the "Contract distilling and separate shop system" throughout the State, except in the Amreli District, where the monopoly system still prevails.

System of farming

31. The farms for the manufacture of country liquor continued with the Alembic Chemical Works Company, Limited, for the Baroda and Kadi Districts and Messrs. Gyara and Company for the Navsari District. The farm for the manufacture and sale of country liquor in the Amreli District continued with Mr.

Distilling contracts.

Dorabji Nawroji of Kodinar with a minimum guarantee of Rs. 14,601 till the end of March 1918, when the period of the farm expired. Mr. Dorabji, the old farmer, being the highest bidder at the new auction, was allowed to continue the farm for the next three years with a minimum guarantee of Rs. 15,001 per annum.

32. The Commissioner of Baroda met the Bombay Commissioner in conference at the Baroda Residency in February 1918 and the policy of assimilating rates in border shops was advanced. By mutual consent the question of a general rise in still-head duty rates and selling prices of country liquor was deferred to the next year.

Changes

Liquor shops were disposed of by fixing the license fee where the shop-keeper continued his good reputation, while certain shops were put to auction according to settled principles. There was no material change effected in the duty rates on liquor or in the system of licensing shops.

33. The following is the comparative statement of excise revenue for the year under report and the preceding year :—

Details of Excise Revenue

Item.	1916-17.	1917-18.
1	2	3
	Rs.	Rs.
Manufacture and sale of country liquor	19,76,578	23,16,406
Duty and license fees for the sale of foreign liquor (including rectified and denatured spirits) ..	20,353	33,118
Sale of toddy	2,29,807	2,89,142
Sale of intoxicating drugs including poisons	36,605	48,923
Miscellaneous	5,737	3,803
Total ..	22,69,080	26,91,392

Increase under the first item is partly due to increase in consumption and partly to increase in duty rates at certain places. Increase under the second head is accounted for by more duty realised on 'foreign' liquor manufactured by the Alembic Company. Owing to War the Company is able to put in the market their brandy and whisky and this Government levies duty on such brands according to the duty rate fixed by the British Government on imported spirits. Increase under the third head is owing to general increase of tree-tax on date and palm trees in the Navsari District Revenue from intoxicating drugs has also increased owing to a larger amount realised as license fee and owing to the fact that the British Government now refunds 13/14th of the duty realised by them from our Ijardars instead of $\frac{3}{4}$th

Demand and collection.

34. The following statement gives the demand, collection and arrears of excise revenue for the year under report --

District.	Demand	Extra duty	Collection	Arrears
	Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs
Baroda	7,68,185	81,244	8,44,882	4,547
Kadi	2,49,598		2,49,598	..
Navsari .	15,48,662	32,777	15,78,325	3,114
Amreli .	17,827	760	18,587	..
Total .	25,84,272	1,14,781	26,91,392	7 661

Reasons for the increase in collections

35. The collections during the year were greater than last year by rupees 4,22,312 and are attributable to the increase in the revenue itself as indicated in para. 33 above.

36. The following comparative statement gives the number of liquor and toddy shops in the four districts :—

Number of shops

Districts	Liquor shops		Toddy shops		Foreign liquor shops.		Total	
	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18
Baroda	210	210	7	9	9	9	226	228
Kadi	208	209			3	3	211	212
Navsari	342	342	362	363	8	8	712	713
Amreli	48	48	1	1		.	49	49
Total	808	809	370	373	20	20	1,198	1,202

Four new shops were sanctioned during this year. The number of shops which actually remained open was 1,104 as against 1,086 in the preceding year. Thus there was an actual increase of only 18 working shops during the year : most of these were toddy shops.

37. The following statement shows the number of offences detected and the number of convictions and acquittals :—

Offences

District	Offences	Results.		Remarks
		Convicted	Acquitted.	
Baroda	30	26	4	
Kadi	31	24	6	One pending.
Navsari	84	65	6	13 pending.
Amreli	3	3	....	
Total	148	118	16	14 pending.
1916-17	184	153	31	

The number of offences detected and convicted shows decrease as compared with that in the preceding year. The decrease is greater in Baroda and Navsari Districts. The percentage of convictions to cases tried throughout the four districts is 88 as against 83 in the preceding year.

G.—Opium.

Sources of opium revenue

38. The sources of the opium revenue are :—

(*a*) Profits on opium issued to licensed vendors for local consumption.

(*b*) Fees for licenses for retail sale and miscellaneous receipts.

State monopoly of manufacturing opium.

39. The manufacture of opium is a State monopoly on the Bengal system. During the year, the issue rate of opium from depots was raised from Rs. 17-8-0 per seer to Rs. 22-8-0 from 1st April 1918 ; and the system of licensing opium shops to approved shopkeepers was abolished and auction system was introduced from July 1st, 1918, the limits of minimum and maximum selling prices being done away with.

Poppy cultivation.

40. During the year under report poppy was cultivated in Sidhpur, Kheralu and Visnagar Talukas of the Kadi district, the Visnagar Taluka being added this year with a view to increase the area of poppy cultivation, owing to the necessity of increased production. In spite of this increase in area, the yield of opium juice was unfortunately poor, being nearly half of that obtained last year.

The purchase rate of opium juice

41. Licensed cultivators are bound to sell all juice to the State at the rate fixed previous to issuing the licenses. The maximum rate for the best juice was fixed at Rs. 4 per seer of 40 tolas as in the last year.

42. The following are the figures showing the quantity of opium sent to the local depots and that sold in China and to the British Government.—

Opium sent to Depots.

Year.	Opium sent to local depots for consumption in the State in lbs	Opium sold to the British Government in lbs.	Opium sold in China in lbs.
1916-17	19,810	..	544
1917-18	21,350	..	

As stated in the last year's report the quantity sent to the depots is dependent on the expected consumption in the State, as also on the balance in the depots at the time of the requisition.

43. The financial results of the sale of opium within the State are as follows :—

Sale of opium in the State.

Year.	Cost of production.	Amount realized from licensed vendors.	Profits to the State.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1916-17	1,49,185	4,05,808	2,56,623
1917-18	1,53,421	5,30,753	3,77,332

The increase of Rs. 1,20,709 in the opium revenue is accounted for mainly by the increased issue rate of opium. The results of the auctions on revenue are yet to be seen, as they were held at the fag end of the year.

It is satisfactory, however, to note that the consumption of opium is gradually decreasing, as the people are slowly giving up the opium habit. During the year, consumption

decreased by no less than 1,800 lbs. as compared with the year preceding.

Sale of opium in China.

44. There was no sale of opium in China owing to the closure of the opium market from 1st April 1917. The 30 chests that remained there unsold were bought by the Chinese Government under a special agreement and the Opium Combine—which we have allowed our agents to join—is taking steps to realise the value.

H.—Customs and Port Dues.

Revenue from Customs and Port Dues

45. The following statement shows the revenue obtained from (*a*) customs duties at Chandod and excise duty on cotton goods in the Baroda District, (*b*) the sea customs and port dues as well as land customs at the inland "Nakas" in the Amreli district, and (*c*) the wharfage dues (Armar Cess) in the Naosari District :—

District	1916-17	1917-18.
	Rs	Rs
Baroda . .	56,124	71,364
Kadi . .	....	. .
Naosari . ..	5,333	5,774
Amreli	72,387	87,652
Total .	1,33,844	1,64,790

The increase of Rs. 30,946 is partly due to the larger amount of excise duty on cotton goods realised from the Baroda

mills, and partly to the export duty imposed on ghee and other articles of foreign territory exported from our ports.

Important changes.

46. In deference to the wishes of the British Government, two signallers were sent to Bombay for learning signalling work for the Dwarka Look-out Station and a Coast Guard Officer was appointed and put at the head of the signalling staff for purposes of watch during war times.

The various fees, which were charged from the fishermen coming to Madhvad in Kodinar Taluka for fishing during the fishing season, were consolidated with a view to minimise inconvenience.

I—Salt.

Arrangements re. salt.

47. The salt arrangements for Baroda, Kadi and Naosari Districts continued unchanged. In Amreli District, contracts are given for collecting salt from salt pans in Kodinar and Okhamandal Talukas; these contracts, which were given in Samvat 1973 for three years and in Samvat 1969 for ten years respectively, were under continuance during the year under report.

Revenue.

48. The amount realised from the manufacture of natural salt in Kodinar and Okhamandal talukas was, during the year under report, Rs. 734 against Rs. 800 in the previous year. The decrease of Rs. 66 was due to less area taken up under salt-production during the year. Valuable salt resources in Kodinar and Okhamandal talukas are being wasted owing to unnecessary prohibition on the export of salt to any outside ports in India, and this question is under correspondence with the Government of India.

J.—Stamps.

Constitution.

49. The Accountant-General was in charge of the supply and sale of stamps, while the supervision over the arrangement and general working of the Stamp Act rested with the Joint Sar Subha.

50. The revenue derived from the sale of stamps during the last two years is shown in the following table :—

Revenue

Items.	1916-17	1917-18.
	Rs.	Rs.
Court-fee	3,42,608	3,27,074
Documentary ..	3,53,007	3,63,422
Special levies	5,555	7,955
Miscellaneous receipts .	1,550	12,322
Total ..	7,02,720	7,10,773

The increase in the receipt of revenue was due to the increase in the aggregate value of documents registered.

51 The following statement will show the expenditure incurred under the head of " Stamps " :—

Expenditure

Years	Rs
1916-17 .	38,949
1917-18	47,400

52. The Personal Assistant to the Head of the Department inspected 12 stamp depots, 10 stamp-vendors' daftars and 25 public offices in order to see that stamp revenue was being properly safe-guarded.

Inspection

53. The department referred 7 cases to the Varishta Court for decision during the year, while there were 8 cases pending decision by that court at the close of the previous year. Of these 15 cases 3 were decided by the Varishta Court, agreeing with the department in 2 and differing in 1. The number of cases pending decision by the Varishta Court at the close of the year was 12.

Cases referred to the Varishta Court

K.—Barkhali.

54 During the year, Mr G R Nimbalkar, B A, continued in charge of this branch as Sar Subha, and Mr R. K Jadhav, B A., LL.B, as his assistant

Personnel

55. The temporary establishments engaged for arranging the Barkhali records have finished all the work of indexing except that of preparing the general index. The special sanction having expired, the establishment was disbanded from 31st January 1918.

Work done by the temporary record establishment

56. Revision Barkhali 'patraks' of 102 villages 41 of Patan, 31 of Dehgam and 30 of Attarsumba—were prepared during the year

Preparation of revision Barkhali "Patraks"

57. The officer on special duty had commenced the work of enquiring into the Barkhali lands of Kalol taluka in the last year During the year under report, he dealt with 62 villages of the same taluka The work of enquiring into the Barkhali lands of Miyagam and Karamdi villages has been entrusted to the Giras Sub-assistant, Mr. Ambaidas K Patel, over and above his own work since 26th November 1917 the cost of the establishment during the year on account of salary, bhatta and contingent which amounted

Work done by the special officers

to Rs. 1,154 will be borne by the Thakore of that place. The total amount of work and the work turned out during the year was as under :-

Name of village.	Total Barkhali land in bighas.	Total Number of cases to be enquired into	Number of cases enquired into during the year.
Miyagam	4,335	187	67
Karamdi	499	82	

Partly owing to the plague and partly on account of the late submission by the Thakore of the papers regarding the village of Karamdi the work suffered some delay

Inami villages

58 During the year, orders regarding four Inami villages were passed by the Huzur and regarding 2 by the Dewan. Of these 6 villages, two were totally resumed, while *vadharo* was levied on one and *vadharo* and settlement charged on another and the other two were continued An annuity of Rs. 393 was granted as maintenance allowance to the holder of one of the 2 villages totally resumed Last year 9 village cases were disposed of, of which 3 were totally and 1 partially resumed, while *vadharo* was levied on 5

Cash work

59. In the cash branch, 106 claims were disposed of. The amount claimed was Rs. 63,224, out of which Rs. 50,854 were continued and Rs. 12,370 disallowed. Last year there were 111 claims and the amounts claimed and continued were Rs. 83,175 and Rs. 77,338 respectively Allowances of an annual value of Rs. 30 were purchased for Rs. 472 giving an average of nearly sixteen times on the amount purchased. Last year's figures were Rs 345 and Rs. 3,598 respectively.

60. In the non-guaranteed Giras branch, 4 claims came up for disposal. The amount claimed was Rs. 78, of which Rs. 40 were continued and Rs 38 disallowed. No claim was purchased during the year. Last year's claims were 5 and the amounts claimed and disallowed were Rs. 35 and Rs 2 respectively. Besides 2 "Takka Hak" mutation cases were dealt with during the year

Non-guaranteed Giras work.

61. In the Watan branch, 15 claims in all were disposed of during the year. Of these, 3 were original, 7 succession, and 5 miscellaneous. The amount claimed was Rs 7,670, of which Rs. 7,262 were continued and Rs. 408 disallowed. Of the 10 Watan cases dealt with, exclusive of the 5 miscellaneous claims 4 were continued with ten annas service, 2 with six annas service, 3 with full service and one was discontinued. Last year's claims were 14 and the amounts continued and disallowed were Rs. 4,256 and Rs. 1,060 respectively

Watan work.

62. During the year 9 Sanads in all, 6 of the first class and 3 of the second, were issued with reference to Barkhali land which had undergone transfer of ownership owing to sale, etc Last year, 4 Sanads of the first class and 31 of the second class were issued under similar circumstances.

Sanad work

63. During the year under report, Rs. 415 were refunded and Rs. 3,677 were written off. Last year Rs. 1,079 were refunded without any writing off of arrears.

Arrears and refund.

64. Three original settlement orders were passed during the year regarding *nakri* land measuring about 29 bighas and assessed at Rs. 124. 262 claims about Barkhali land came up for disposal. In 9 cases, land measuring about bighas 97 and assessed at Rs. 194 was resumed, and in 5 cases land measuring

Settlement of Barkhali land.

about bighas 26 and assessed at Rs. 72 was continued as Barkhali. 4 revision Barkhali *patraks* of Inami villages were prepared during the year. This year's figures, as compared with those of the last year, stand as under :--

Items.	1916-17.	1917-18.
1. Original settlement orders	1	3
2. Review claims about Barkhali land.	215	262

65. During the year, 176 Barkhali land succession cases came up for disposal against 69 in the last year. Rs. 602 were levied as fines for laches, against Rs 510 in the last year. No land was purchased during the year, last year, 34 bighas were purchased for Rs. 886.

Barkhali land succession and purchase of land

66 Six loans amounting to Rs. 58,202 were advanced during the year to various Sardars and Government servants The balance due to Government from 40 loans in all at the end of July 1918 amounted to Rs. 6,48,129 and the recovery during the year was Rs. 1,11,979. The balance from outstanding loans at the end of July 1917 was Rs. 6,38 842 and recovery Rs 95,012.

Loan work

67. Fifty-four appeals were preferred during the year against the decisions of the Department, which with the old balance of 31 numbered 85 in all. Of these, one was withdrawn by the appellant, 13 *prima facie* rejected, 33 disallowed, 4 modified, 12 remanded to the Department, and in 4 cases the orders of the Department were reversed. Last year's figures were 27 rejected, 7 upheld, 3 removed from the file, 4 modified and 9 remanded to the Department.

Appeals to the Huzur

Expenditure

68. The expenditure on the Barkhali branch during the year was Rs 20,570 as against Rs. 21,497 last year

Work of the Shilledari branch.

69. As mentioned in the last report, only the mutation work of the Shilledari branch has remained with the Department. During the year, 11 mutation cases, 4 relating to maintenance and pension and 4 of miscellaneous nature were disposed of. The operation of the mutation rules and the election by the Shilledars in 2 cases to have pension in lieu of their *nemnooks* resulted in a gain of about Rs. 812 per mensem.

Hitherto, the Shilledars getting below Rs. 50 per mensem at succession were reduced to the status of ordinary Huzrat Paga Swars and ceased to be Shilledars. But His Highness was graciously pleased to order that they should continue to be looked upon as Shilledars in order to perpetuate their ancient status.

Work done by the District Revenue Officers.

70. The work done by the Subas, the Naib Subas, the Vahivatdars and the Mahalkaris, was as under :—

Division	Cash: Number of Claims	Cash: Amount claimed	Cash: Amount continued	Watan: Number of claims	Watan: Amount claimed	Watan: Amount continued	Cash Giras, Non-Guaranteed: Number of claims	Cash Giras, Non-Guaranteed: Amount claimed	Cash Giras, Non-Guaranteed: Amount continued	Barkhali Land Succession: Number of claims	Barkhali Land Succession: Land purchased: Bighas	Barkhali Land Succession: Land purchased: Assessment	Barkhali Land Succession: Lump sum given	Settlement of Barkhali Land: Claims: Number	Claims: Bighas	Claims: Assessment	Rejected: Number	Rejected: Bighas	Rejected: Assessment	Resumed: Number	Resumed: Bighas	Resumed: Assessment
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.			Rs.	Rs.			Rs.			Rs.			Rs.
Baroda	8	865	764	1	[illegible]		2	331	272	2,510				[illegible]	601	1,947	9	32	81	183	569	1,866
Kadi	10	3,143	2,805	3			1	30	30	724				21	137	226	21	137	226			.
Navsari ..	6	221	139	2	377	344	7	610	606	525				55	488	2,304	16	165	2,210	9	23	94
Amreli ..	7	2,996	2,996	.	.					67	.		227	5	144	201	1	16	26	4	128	175
Total	31	7,225	6,704	6	930	344	10	971	908	3,826			227	273	1,370	4,678	77	650	2,543	196	720	2,135

71. The Taluka of Savli was inspected during the year and it was found that the cotton-cess was not levied from Inami villages which grow over 25 per cent. cotton The consequent loss of revenue was very great ; but steps have been taken to mend it.

Offices inspected

L.—Survey and Settlement.

72. Mr. K. B. Jadhava was in charge of the Department during the year, except from November 1917 to March 1918, when he was deputed on special duty in connection with the Princes' Conference and had to be out of Baroda most of the time. During his absence the charge remained with the Sar Kamdar. Mr. R. N. Ambegaokar worked as Prat Sar Kamdar and looked after the work of measuring, classing and inquiry parties throughout the year Mr. K. V. Uplap, B A ,LL B., was in charge of the Jamabandi Office

Personnel

73 Work of the Department may be divided under the following heads —

Division of work

1. Survey operations ;
2. Classing operations ,
3. City Survey and Inquiry ; and
4. Jamabandi and Records.

Survey Operations.

74. Since, as mentioned in the last year's report, three parties were disbanded from 1st August 1917, there remained only one party 'A' for measuring ; there was besides another for City Survey work.

Number of parties.

75. This 'A' party completed the verification work of Bhadran and 37 villages of Petlad and also of the *bid* lands at Vejpur and Vachhesar.

Work done by 'A' party.

During the field season this party did the revision work of 14 villages of Petlad, one of Bhadran and field to field measurement of four Ankadia villages, *viz.*, Amrapur, Manekpur, Ambod and Changod. It split up the *bid* land of Jambugoral in Savli into pieces of 25 bighas each and measured the lands of Umrath, Vasi and Borsi in the Navsari District according to the actual possession of holders.

Classing Operations.

Work of 'F' party.

76. The 'F' party did revision classification of Bhadran and of 2 villages in Petlad during the field season. It also classified the *bid* lands of Vejpur, Vachhesar, Dhantej and Khokar of Savli and Karmasia of Waghodia, and verified the field classification of 31 villages of Chanasma, 25 of Vijapur and 4 of Bhadran.

Work of 'E' party.

77. The 'E' party was to have been disbanded by the end of July 1917, but the verification work being voluminous, the period was extended by 9 months. It was detained at the Head-quarters and did the verification work of Chanasma Taluka and also prepared the papers necessary for the preparation of the Revision Settlement Report.

Work of 'Special Half' party.

78 The 'Special Half' party measured lands to the extent of bighas 10,166 of Varsada and Bakrol of Savli, Nimetha and Karmasia of Waghodia, New Dhrewad of Okhamandal and of Mangrol. It did the revision *Bandh Pahani* work of Vanadra under Dabhoi, split up 629 survey numbers in Atarsumba and Sidhpur, classified land to the extent of 3,507 bighas of Varsada in Savli and of Nimetha in Waghodia and some stray numbers in Padra, Waghodia and Savli Talukas, and reclassified 1,266 survey numbers of Vanadra

CITY SURVEY WORK, INQUIRY, ETC.

Work of City Survey party

79. The City Survey party completed the property survey of Dwarka and Beyt and the verification work of Mehsana and Shri Becharaji. The verification work of Kadi, Dwarka and Beyt was on hand.

Inquiry work

80. There were five parties for this work. Party No I did miscellaneous work at Baroda ; Party No II, having completed the work of recording the decisions at Vadnagar, was sent to Visnagar to help Parties III and V, which were doing work there. Party No. IV, having completed the inquiry into titles at Amreli, has commenced work at Mehsana

The total number of decisions passed by these parties during the year under report was 8 564 as against 9,199 of the previous year.

Amount of fees and fines

81. The following statement shows the amount of Sanad fees and fines recovered in different towns —

Towns.	Sanads sent to Municipalities	Fees recovered by the Municipalities till the end of July 1918	Fines	Total
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs	Rs	Rs
Baroda .	.	556	11	567
Dabhoi		498	100	598
Padra .	3	97	32	129
Pattan .	366	20,433	319	20,752
Vadnagar	2,597	15,787	88	15,875
Visnagar	2,751	9,715	97	9,812
Amreli ..	2,165	7,318	.	7,318
Total .	7,882	54,404	647	55,051

The inquiry officers resumed land to the extent of about 2,50,624 square feet, out of which 1,197 square feet were sold for Rs. 962.

City appeals.

82. The number of appeals pending at the end of the last year was 87, and during the year 266 new ones were received, making a total of 353. In 76 of these the orders of the lower court were confirmed, in 227 they were reversed, while in 19 they were modified and 3 were rejected; thus there remained a balance of 28 at the close of the year.

JAMABANDI.

Charge of the office.

83. The charge of the office was with Mr. K. V. Uplap B.A.,LL.B., throughout the year.

Settlement Reports, etc.

84. Revision Settlement Reports for the talukas of Kadi, Kalol and Vijapur were sanctioned; similarly sanction was given to the settlement of 8 stray villages, *viz.*, Piplaj, Govindpura and Veda of Kalol, Ridrol, Tatosan, Paldi-Vyas, Veda and Bamanva of Vijapur.

Declaration of rates.

85. The revised settlement rates of 56 villages of Visnagar and 80 of Mehsana, which were sanctioned last year, and 84 of Kalol and 56 of Vijapur, which were sanctioned during the year of the report, and of two stray villages—Hajipur and Dharpur of Pattan—were declared.

Jamabandi.

86. The *jamabandi* of the Talukas of Pattan, Harij, Dehgam and Attarsumba and of 10 stray villages—Sunsar of Chanasma, Dharpur of Pattan, Fattepur, Shahpur, Salad, Ruvad, Hasapur, Daulatpur and Rasulpur of Baroda, and Dethan of Karjan—was done during the year.

87. Mr. Uplap was entrusted with the work of preparing the Revision Settlement Report for Chanasma under Huzur Orders. This he has done in addition to the work of declaring the revised rates of Kalol and Vijapur before the close of the year, in spite of the fact that, when the sanction of Government was accorded to the revision, there was very little time left for it.

Special work.

88. During the year, 241 *tikas* of 134 villages of Mehsana, Kadi, Kheralu, Kalol and Vijapur were prepared, as compared with 319 of the last year.

Maps.

89. Seventeen Tajvijdars (Circle Inspectors) from different talukas were deputed to the department for training.

Training of Tajvijdars

90. The total expenditure was Rs. 2,08,003, as against Rs. 2,42,760 for the last year. The decrease was mostly due to the reduction of three measuring parties from the beginning of the year and of one classing party from May 1918. The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 13,426.

Expenditure and receipts

M.—Giras.

91. The Giras Department was under the charge of Rao Bahadur Govindbhai Hathibhai Desai, B.A.,LL.B., till 23rd September 1917, when it was transferred to the Sar Suba, Mr. G. R. Nimbalkar, B.A. There was no other change in the personnel and Mr. V. A. Mehd, continued to be the Giras Assistant and Alienation Inquiry Officer for Baroda, Mr. A. K. Patel to be the Giras, Sub-Assistant and Darbar Representative at the Residency and Mr. G. H. Limaye remained on special duty to carry on the alienation inquiry in the guaranteed holdings of the Mahikantha Tributary Girassias.

Personnel.

92. Two survey parties transferred from the Survey Department for the revenue survey of the guaranteed Wanta and Giras lands, were sent back last year, and the services of one surveyor and one classer were retained for the sub-division of numbers and other miscellaneous survey work arising out of the execution of orders.

Survey work.

93. Like the Thakore of Itwad, the Thakore of Umetha made a belated application during the year for an inquiry into his Wanta lands and the request was sanctioned as a special case.

New application for inquiry.

94. Mr. Mehd in Baroda Division inquired into about 3,805 bighas of land, divided into 657 holdings, leaving a balance of about 178 bighas, while Mr. Limaye in the Kadi Division inquired into about 7,151 bighas of land, divided into 428 holdings, leaving a balance of about 2,487 bighas. They passed decisions in 474 and 1,230 holdings respectively.

Alienation inquiry work during the year.

95. The memorial submitted by H. H. the Nawab Saheb of Palanpur to the Government of India against the imposition of local cess on his lands in our territory, on the ground of an alleged treaty, has been rejected and the right of the Baroda Government to levy the cess has been confirmed.

Memorial of H. H the Nawab Saheb of Palanpur rejected by the Government of India.

96. The Government of India has unfortunately refused to reconsider its decision in the matter of our levying succession *nazarana* from the estate of Mandwa. It is therefore contemplated to approach the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India on the subject,

Decision of the Government of India in Mandwa Succession Nazarana case.

as the question is a momentous one and of far reaching consequences.

Scope and nature of the Giras work.

97. The department had mainly to do the following work :—

(1) Inquiries into, and passing decisions in, succession and miscellaneous cases ;

(2) Correspondence with the Residency and other departments of the State, and with the Girasias ;

(3) Purchasing for a lump sum guaranteed land and cash *haks* or commutation of land for an annual cash payment ;

(4) Execution of decisions of the Residency and the State Giras Courts, and inspection of the taluka work ; and

(5) Conducting appeals in the Residency.

Succession and miscellaneous cases.

98. The following table shows the work done during the year under the first head of the last paragraph :—

Nature of cases.	Balance at the end of last year.	New cases filed during the year	Total	Number of cases disposed of during the year	Number of cases pending disposal at the end of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Succession cases ..	6	50	56	43	13
Miscellaneous cases	11	36	47	32	15

Residency correspondence.

99. There were altogether 82 Residency references and they were all disposed of during the year.

100. The following table shows the purchase, commutation, etc., of guaranteed Giras land and cash *haks* and compares them with those of the last year:—

Commutation of lands.

Year.	Land purchased for a lump sum.	Land commuted for annual Kothali Santh	Land divested of guarantee owing to private sales.	Total	Value of cash *Haks* purchased.	Value of cash *Haks* struck off.	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Bighas	Bighas.	Bighas.	Bighas.	Rs a p	Rs a. p.	Rs. a p
1916-17	11 0 0	549 0 9	155 0 0	715 0 9	45 13 5	1 15 2	47 12 7
1917-18.	15 8 0	117 9 0	7 13 0	140 10 0	184 5 4		184 5 4

101. The work of executing the decisions was maintained upto date. The Giras Assistant visited 11 places for alienation inquiry work, and inspected the records of six talukas. Mr. Limaye, the Inquiry Officer for Kadi division, carried on his work from three central places, (1) Mehsana, (2) Jagudan and (3) Linch.

Execution and inspection work.

102. The Resident did not take up any new appeal for hearing. The decision in the Rangpur appeal, which was heard at the end of the last year, was however awaited with anxiety, as it involved a claim for guarantee to the whole village and it was feared that an adverse decision would open a wide door for new claims of this type. The decision was happily in our favour and will close the door for similar new claims.

Residency appeals.

Work of the first Appellate Court.

103. The following table shows the results of the Giras and Alienation Inquiry appeals decided by the head of the department during the year under report :—

Nature of Appeal.	Balance at the end of the year 1916-17.	New file.	Total.	Disposal.						Balance at the end of the year.
				Confirmed.	Reversed.	Revised or modified.	Remanded.	Withdrawn.	Rejected as time-barred	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Giras ..	..	28	28	15	2	2	..	2	2	5
Kadi Inquiry.	3	206	209	5	30	12	131	7	..	24
Baroda Inquiry ..	24	136	160	32	19	9	9	20	..	71

CHAPTER V.

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

A.—Local Boards.

Number of Local Board Institutions.

1. The number of District Boards remained unchanged (four) and that of Taluka Boards was 38, as against 37 in the preceding year. The increase was due to the formation of an independent taluka board for the Peta-mahal of Ratanpur. The Village Boards were distributed in the four districts as under :—

District	Number of Village Boards.		Increase.
	1917-18.	1916-17.	
Baroda	708	700	8
Kadi	893	892	1
Navsari	476	476	....
Amreli	242	242	....
Total ..	2,319	2,310	9

The increase of one village board in Kadi and eight in Baroda was due to the formation of new boards in the Inami villages of Harij and Dabhoi talukas, respectively.

Constitution.

2. The constitution of the district and village boards remained unchanged, the Subas continuing to be Presidents of the former and the village Patels of the latter. To certain selected Taluka boards, however (Baroda, Petlad, Padra, Karjan, Bhadran and Sinor of Baroda District; Patan, Mehsana, Kadi, Visnagar and Sidhpur of Kadi District; Navsari, Gandevi and Kamrej of Navsari District; and Amreli of Amreli District), the right of electing a non-official Vice-President subject to confirmation by Government was granted, and in such places the Vahivatdar, and not the Naib Suba as hitherto, began to exercise the functions of the President. In other places, where well qualified and public spirited non-officials could not be available, the old practice of having the Vahivatdar as Vice-President and the Naib Suba as President was maintained.

Amalgamation of professional staff with Govt P. W. D.

3. It has hitherto been the practice for Government and the Panchayats to retain separate engineering establishments for their respective works in each taluka. Defects of this system are obvious: there is unnecessary duplication of staff, the Panchayats with their limited resources cannot offer adequate inducement to highly trained men and Panchayat works of larger magnitude cannot easily be undertaken for lack of expert supervision and advice. Government, therefore, by way of experiment in Navsari and Baroda Districts, amalgamated the lower engineering staff of the Panchayats with the Government Public Works Department and made over to them, along with requisite Government funds, the construction of certain smaller standard works like school buildings, *chowras*, Excise and Police

Thanas. Powers of appointment and the mode of recruitment have been so regulated that the Public Works Department and the Panchayats cannot have much occasion to complain, but on the other hand by sympathetic co-operation gradually eliminate inefficient hands and develop one Public Works lower subordinate service by a system of loans and deputations.

Enlargement of sources of income.

4. The fixed charges, which can neither be varied nor avoided, absorb so much of the Local Board revenue that very little is really left for important works of public utility. It was, therefore, necessary to devise some means to enable the Panchayats to tap additional sources of income. Pilgrims and non-agriculturists participate in all the benefits made available by Local Boards without participating in such expenditure. There are at the same time a number of trades, although obnoxious to the public welfare, which are carried on without a pie being contributed towards the maintenance of sanitary measures necessary for minimising the resulting evils. Government have therefore authorised the Panchayats, desirous of doing so, to raise funds by imposing taxes with the previous sanction of Government on such persons and trades. Moreover, the interest accruing on the amount of the reserve fund hitherto went only to augment the fund. But from the year of the report, Government permitted it to be used for works of public utility.

Village allotments.

5. Several years ago, we tried the system of allotting to each village a certain proportion of the local fund revenues for its own requirements. But very soon, the system was abandoned on the ground that the small sums thus allotted were in most cases frittered away without leaving any permanent result. The real difficulty was that of larger funds. Consequently,

the question of ear-marking certain items of Government revenue for the use of village Panchayats, *e.g.*, rent of village sites, annual income from the sale of fruit and fruit trees, etc., has been engaging the attention of Government for some time.

Membership and attendance.

6. The following table shows the number of official and non-official members of District and Taluka Local Boards and their average attendance at the meetings :—

District.	Members.			Total	Average Attendance	
	Elected.	Nominated.				
		Official.	Non-official		Official.	Non-official
Baroda	112	59	65	236	24·50	80 90
Kadi	131	70	74	275	40·40	63·20
Navsari	75	39	45	159	23·56	45·58
Amreli	56	34	30	120	18·84	31 95
Total	374	202	214	790	..	..

The number of members was 790 against 781 of the preceding year. The increase of nine was chiefly due to the formation of the new taluka board at Ratanpur.

7. The income of the local boards under the vari... heads is shown below :—

Income.

Heads of Income.	1917-18.	1916-17.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Local Cess (including last year's balances)	9,12,137	8,12,087
2. Contribution from Government for public libraries, schools and chowras.	93,298	76,223
3. Contribution from private individuals.	28,308	35,198
4. Miscellaneous	49,147	8,902
5. Proceeds from ferry boats	55	55
6. Rent from dharmashalas and public buildings	88	115
7. Recovery of advances and outstanding balances	51,475	52,267
8. Reserve Fund	....	39,560
9. Contribution from P. W. D. for Government works	1,72,614	..
10. Interest of Reserve Fund . ..	14,428	..
Total ..	13,21,550	10,24,407

The reserve fund is drawn upon, as a rule, only in a year of scarcity and was, therefore, not wanted in the year under report. The additional sources under Nos. 9 and 10 will be explained by what has been said in paras. 3 and 4 (supra). The arrears of the last three years on account of the rental of village sites, which have been allotted by Government to the Local Boards, were handed over to these bodies during the year and have augmented the income under miscellaneous head.

8. The following statement shows the various heads of expenditure incurred by these bodies :—

Expenditure.

Items.	1917-18.	1916-17.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Administration	75,850	69,580
2. Civil works	4,19,027	3,37,494
3. Education	3,14,682	2,20,191
4 Medical and Vaccination	23,312	21,102
5. Sanitation and other works of public convenience	48,543	14,713
6. Advances	47,443	40,474
7 Miscellaneous	26,703	36,550
8 Contribution from Local Cess to Municipalities and Vishishtha Panchayats	11,358	18,825
9. Refund of unspent savings of last year	..	62,199
10. Expenditure from last year's balances.	2,670	308
11. Distribution of Local Cess to Village Boards for Civil Works	4,759	...
Total	9,74,347	8,21,436

The increase under the heads of administration, civil works and advances was chiefly the result of the amalgamation of the Public Works and Local Boards professional establishments in the Baroda and Navsari districts and the delegation to the local bodies of the construction of certain Government public buildings of a minor nature. The adjustment made this year of an outstanding amount of last year accounts for the increase under the head of education. The increase under the head of medical charges and vaccination was due to the grants given to the Vyara and Kathor veterinary dispensaries. The contribution of Rs. 30,000 from the Baroda District Board towards the construction of the station dharmashala at Baroda has augmented the expenditure under the head of public convenience.

Comparison of charges under civil works.

9. The following statement compares the charges under the various heads of civil works incurred during the year with those of the preceding year :—

Items.	1917-18	1916-17.
	Rs.	Rs.
A.—Communications :—		
(a) Original	37,038	25,450
(b) Repairs	99,432	33,610
Total	1,36,470	59,060
B.—Civil buildings :—		
(1) Chowras—		
(a) Original	28,174	38,450
(b) Repairs	30,426	26,452
Total .	58,600	64,902
(2) Public Buildings (Libraries, etc)—		
(a) Original . . .	45,420	8,134
(b) Repairs	11,447	102
Total	56,867	8,236
(3) Tile-turning and supervision	6,233	4,780
Total for Civil Buildings	1,21,700	77,918
C.—Water-supply :—		
(1) Wells—		
(a) Original .. .	54,733	67,198
(b) Repairs . .	42,106	49,555
Total .	96,839	1,16,753
(2) Tanks—		
(a) Original . .	6,215	5,421
(b) Repairs . ..	24,119	42,288
Total	30,334	47,709
(3) Cattle-troughs—		
(a) Original	10,273	6,744
(b) Repairs . .	2,106	712
Total	12,379	7,456
Total for Water-supply	1,39,552	1,71,918
D.—Other Works :—		
(a) Original	3,113	10,464
(b) Repairs	7,165	1,963
Total .	10,278	12,427
E.—Other works with the agency of Village Boards	5,270	4,102
Grand Total .	4,13,270	3,25,425

The increase was chiefly due to the amalgamation of Public Works Department works with the Panchayat works. The Navsari District completed 57 works of about Rs. 44,207 entrusted by the Public Works Department and the Baroda District spent Rs. 95,501 contributed by the Public Works Department. More attention has been paid to communications and public buildings this year.

Judicial work done by village boards.

10. Those of the village boards that were invested with civil and criminal powers did their work on the whole satisfactorily. The question of extending these powers to a large number of villages was under consideration.

B.—Vishishta Panchayats.

Number of Vishishta Panchayats.

11. There was no change in the number of Vishishta Panchayats; there were 12 Vishishta Panchayats in the Baroda District, 10 in the Kadi, 4 in the Navsari and 5 in the Amreli District, making a total of 31.

Constitution.

12. The constitution of these Vishishta Panchayats remained unchanged. They combine the functions and responsibilities of the village boards with some of the Municipalities. The number of meetings held by these bodies ranged from 3 to 19. Although, provision has been made for the election of non-official Presidents and Vice-Presidents for these bodies, effect was given during the year under report only so far as Vice-Presidents were concerned and several Vishishta Panchayats have elected their Vice-Presidents.

13. The income of these bodies during the last two years is given below ;—

Income.

Heads of Income.	1917-18.	1916-17.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Grant by Government	30,996	21,272
2. Municipal rates and taxes—		
(*a*) House-tax	32,150	33,501
(*b*) Octroi	56,981	48,676
(*c*) Toll	5,427	5,381
(*d*) Water Cess	24,496	17,474
(*e*) Other taxes	7,589	5,039
Total ..	1,26,643	1,10,071
3. Other sources of Income—		
(*a*) Rent of " Gamthan " land ..	1.154	357
(*b*) Sale of Manure	90	181
(*c*) Receipts from markets and slaughter houses	1,248	924
(*d*) Miscellaneous..	11,008	6,867
Total ..	13,500	8,329
4. Contribution from Local Cess.. ..	9,136	8,486
Grand Total	1,80,275	1,48,158

Some of the items of revenue allotted to these institutions by Government, which remained outstanding, were collected during the year with the result that an increase has been shown under the head of grant by Government. The increase under other heads was due to increase of octroi in Kadi and Navsari, water cess in Kathor and recoveries of past arrears.

14. The total expenditure during the last two years is shown below :—

Expenditure.

Heads of Expenditure.	1917-18.	1916-17.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Administration	15,309	13,756
2. Public safety (lighting and protection from fire)	27,084	22,046
3. Public health and convenience (conservancy, public works, watering roads, etc)	1,01,179	92,864
Total .	1,43,572	1,28,666

The figures show that better attention has been paid to works of public utility than last year. The revision in the pay of the establishments accounts for the increase under administration.

15. The work of these bodies was inspected by the Joint Sar Suba, the Subas, the Naib Subas, the Sanitary Commissioner, the Accounts Department and the Varishtha Court, in matters coming within the scope of their respective departments.

Inspection.

16. All the Vishishta Panchayats are authorised to hear and dispose of petty civil and criminal cases and the work done by them in this behalf was fairly satisfactory.

General remarks.

C.—Municipalities.

17. The number of self-governing municipalities remained unchanged. The Subas of the districts continued to be the Presidents of Patan, Navsari and Amreli Municipalities and the

Number of Municipalities.

Naib Subas of the divisions concerned were the Presidents of those of Visnagar, Sidhpur, Dabhoi, Petlad, Gandevi and Billimora. In the case of the Baroda City Municipality, the Municipal Commissioner continued to be the President; and the powers of the Suba in connection with the Municipal works, hitherto exercised by the Municipal Commissioner, were transferred to the Joint Sar Suba, under the amended Municipal Act. The Municipalities of Baroda, Visnagar, Amreli and Navsari enjoyed the privilege of electing non-official Vice-Presidents.

Constitution.

18. The following table shows the number of meetings held by, and the number of members in, the several municipalities :—

Names of the Municipalities.	Number of meetings held	Number of Members	
		Elected.	Nominated.
Baroda City .	33	24	12
Dabhoi .. .	30	10	10
Petlad . ..	21	12	12
Patan .. .	12	12	12
Sidhpur .	7	10	10
Visnagar .	10	10	10
Naosari . .	9	12	12
Gandevi .	8	8	8
Billimora	7	8	8
Amreli . .	9	12	12
Total ..	146	118	106

The number of meetings held during the previous year was 170.

19. The gross income of all the Municipalities was Rs. 6,91,961 as against Rs. 7,95,913 in the preceding year, showing a decrease of Rs. 1,03,952.

Total income of all the Municipalities

20. The following table shows the income of the Baroda City Municipality :—

Income of the Baroda City Municipality.

Sources	1917-18.	1916-17.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Grant from Government	75,000	2,00,000
2. Municipal rates and taxes—		
(*a*) Octroi	1,67,171	1,95,346
(*b*) Tax on animals and vehicles .	9,660	9,071
(*c*) Tolls on roads	4,611	6,312
(*d*) Water cess	1,29,279	81,060
(*e*) Conservancy rates	23,223	29,829
(*f*) Drainage	10,047	8,799
(*g*) Tax on offensive and dangerous trades	1,772	....
(*h*) Other sources	34,700	36,039
(*i*) Miscellaneous	30,301	27,449
Total ..	4,85,764	5,93,905

The Government grant to the City Municipality is really Rs. 1,25,000, but during the year only Rs. 75,000 were paid and the balance was yet to be recovered by the Municipality, when the year closed. The two lakhs shown as grant in the last year, represented the grant of the year plus the unrecovered amount of Rs. 75,000 of 1915-16 which was recovered in 1916-17. The decrease under the heads of octroi and toll was due to the restricted transmission of commodities for sale from surrounding villages to Baroda, on account of the prolonged monsoon, the temporary migration of the people from the town owing to plague and unfounded rumours about

compulsory recruiting. The decrease in the item of conservancy rates was due to the fact that during the year under report, collections could not be fully made owing to the migration of the people from the town, owing to plague. The revised rules enhancing the rate of water cess were fully brought into operation during the year under report, and this fact accounts for the enhanced revenue under that head. The rise in revenue from taxes on animals and vehicles was due partly to the recovery of old arrears and partly to the prompt recovery of the year's demand. The number of drainage connections has increased in the year under report, and a new tax was levied on offensive and dangerous trades.

On the whole, the total income of the year, excluding the Government grant, must be considered satisfactory, when it is borne in mind that the year was an unfavourable one on account of excessive rainfall and plague.

Income of other Municipalities.

21. The income of the other municipalities is shown in the following table :—

Sources.	1917-18.	1916-17.
	Rs.	Rs.
Municipal rates and taxes .. .	1,35,037	1,34,736
Other sources	60,246	59,228
Miscellaneous	10,414	8,044
Grant from Government..	500	....
Total ..	2,06,197	2,02,008

The increase under all the heads was due to the recovery of past arrears. The grant from the Government was given

this year specially to erect temporary huts outside the town for the people of Amreli in consequence of plague.

Expenditure of all the Municipalities

22. The total expenditure of all the Municipalities taken together was Rs. 11.15,335 as against Rs. 6,17,845 in the preceding year.

Expenditure of the Baroda City Municipality.

23. The expenditure of the Baroda City Municipality during the year was as follows :--

Item	1917-18.	1916-17
	Rs.	Rs
General Administration ..	83,438	83,505
Other charges.. ..	56,093	37,777
Roads .. .	39,759	58,342
Other public works .	27,083	39,010
Conservancy .. .	90,910	1 02,903
Road watering .	34,481	34,034
Lighting .. .	34,795	40,007
Water works . .	50,557	42,380
Drainage	47,547	1,277
Compensation .. .	1,257	4,822
City Improvement Trust .	4,76,202	....
Total	9,42,122	4,44,057

A new and large item of expenditure was under the head of City Improvement Trust. Similarly, drainage also absorbed a larger amount of money. Both these items of excess were due to the adjustments of old accounts with the Improvement Trust Board. The ravages of plague called for an enhanced expenditure under the head of other works. The Public Works Department, which controls the main water works at Ajwa on behalf of the Municipality, incurred a larger expenditure on that head and this amount was debited to the Municipality. The decrease of expenditure on roads, other

public works. compensation and lighting is put by the Municipality to the account of economy necessitated by high prices and transport difficulties. This reason, so far as roads are concerned, is not quite acceptable as the expenditure has been gradually declining for the last several years and Government has drawn the attention of the Municipality to the necessity of adequate expenditure on this item of public usefulness. The decrease under conservancy was due to the dearth of scavengers, which however did not affect the necessary sanitary arrangements. The other variations call for no special remarks.

Expenditure of other Municipalities

24. The following figures represent the principal items of expenditure by the other Municipalities during the year :-

Items.	1917-18.	1916-17.
	Rs.	Rs.
General Administration	14,783	13,789
Roads and other public works .	27,890	28,771
Road watering	6 482	6,661
Conservancy..	37,368	40,414
Lighting	23,821	21,506
Other charges	58,309	56,758
Compensation	4,560	5,889
Total ..	1,73,213	1,73,788

On the whole, there was a slight decrease in the expenditure, which is attributed to economical working; while the increase in two items of lighting and other charges is explained by high prices and extra expenditure on account of the prevalence of plague.

System of votes by ballot

25. The question of revising the rules regarding Municipal elections, on the analogy of the British rules by introducing the system of voting by ballot, was under consideration during the year.

The Local Boards and Municipalities remained under the general supervision of the Joint Sar Suba.

CHAPTER VI.

INDUSTRIES.

A.--Agriculture.

Personnel.

1. Mr. A. C. Desai worked as Director of Agriculture throughout the year, and Mr. C. V. Sane as Deputy Director. But the latter was temporarily deputed to the Survey Department to receive training in the survey work. When in the department, he was usefully engaged in the investigation of Waghad cotton and general problems of agriculture and dairy industry in the Kadi District. He and Mr. K. N. Powar were also deputed to the Punjab to study the experiments with American cotton and other crops introduced by the Agricultural Department of that province.

Special work of the Director and his Deputy.

2. The Director had attended the meetings of the Board of Agriculture held at Poona in December and worked on the two subject committees appointed by the Board to consider the questions of (1) the development of Indian sugar industry and (2) the best means of bringing improved methods of cultivation to the notice of the farmers. Both the Director and his Deputy gave their evidence before the Indian Cotton Committee appointed by the Government of India and helped the members in getting necessary information during their visit to Navsari in the month of February. The Director was also deputed by the State to attend the War Conference held at Bombay under the Presidentship of H. E. the Governor.

3. The total expenditure and receipts of the Department amounted to Rs. 54,589 and Rs. 12,266 as against Rs. 58,439 and Rs. 12,458 respectively of the preceding year. The decrease in expenditure was due to the closing of the farms at Dabhoi and Dwarka. This closure was responsible also to some extent for the reduction in the receipt figures.

Expenditure and receipts.

4. The year was one of very heavy precipitation. Both the total amount of rainfall and the number of rainy days were far above the average all over the State, the increase varying from 50 per cent. to over 100 per cent. of the average in different parts of the State. The result was that the monsoon crops were considerably damaged and some of the experiments on the State farms spoilt. It also upset to some extent the programme of district work. Besides the unfavourable monsoon, the wide-spread prevalence of plague and the conditions arising from War further interfered with the district work.

Seasonal conditions.

(a) AGRICULTURAL SECTION.

5. At the commencement of the year, the Department had in its charge four farms, one each at Baroda, Jagudan, Dwarka and Songadh.

Model Farms.

Baroda Farm.

6. This Farm is located outside the city and represents the conditions of the "*goradu*" soil of the district. It is divided into two parts (1) demonstration area and (2) experimental area.

7. In the demonstration area, different kinds of '*kharif*,' dry, '*rabi*' and irrigated crops were grown and best methods of tillage and crop treatment demonstrated to the visiting cultivators. The condition of all the crops, excepting those of '*jiru*'

Demonstration area.

and country vegetables which failed, was much better than that of the surrounding locality and this demonstrated the special advantages of good and thorough tillage. The area was worked with a profit of Rs. 575 which may be regarded as very satisfactory, considering the unfavourable condition of the season.

Experimental area.

8. During the year under report, only a few experiments were tried on this farm. From the condition of the last year's crops, it was found that a large number of plots in this area were uneven in '*lay*' and fertility. Most of these had received diversified tillage and manurial treatments during the last few years and the unevenness and inequality between 'comparing' plots were found to be so great, that the result of any experiments were bound to be misleading. A large part of the area was therefore thrown out of experiment with a view to rectify these defects; and this necessarily curtailed the experimental programme of the farm. The main experiments tried on the farm consisted of (1) *Varietal* trials of wheat, 'bajri' and groundnuts, (2) manurial trials with tobacco and sugar cane, (3) ratooning of 'sundhia' for fodder and (4) testing of the new crop of garmal.

(i) *Varietal*: *Wheat.*—Previous year's comparative tests with *Katha*, *Pissi* and *tamra* varieties had resulted in favour of *tamra*. This year *Katha* (local), *tamra* and Pusa varieties were tried. The Pusa crop was uniform and had a good stand but the resulting seed showed signs of deterioration. Considering the yield and price, the advantage was still in favour of *tamra*. The past records of cost, yield and price of wheat and its other competitive crops showed that under the conditions obtaining in the 'goradu' section of Baroda, wheat even when grown under best conditions did not pay as much as other crops,

and that it was not to the advantage of the cultivators to push its cultivation in this kind of soil.

Bajri.—Samples of *bajri* seeds obtained from different parts of the State were grown for comparative study but as most of the plots were spoiled by heavy rains, the observations made were incomplete.

Groundnuts.—Comparative trials with the dry varieties of big erect, Japanese and Spanish peanut were continued ; the yield of all the plots varied within a narrow margin. The result was however vitiated by the heavy rainfall of the year and was not conclusive.

(*ii*) *Manurial* : *Tobacco.*—The series of experiments already laid out to determine the value of green manure of *guvar* as compared with green manure combined with farm yard manure and farm yard manure alone were continued. The combination of green manure and farm yard manure gave the highest yield, while the plots with green manure alone yielded more than those with farm yard alone. These results confirm the observations made in last year's report that given sufficient time for rotting the green manure would prove more advantageous. These experiments will be continued.

Sugarcane—A small plot was treated with slaked lime with a view to counteract the effects of excess of magnesium salts found in the water of the farm-well. The cane on the limed plot had a better stand and gave higher yield than on the unlimed plot. The experiments will be continued further with a view to arrive at definite conclusions.

(*iii*) *Ratooning of Sundhia.*—With a view to increase rapidly the production of fodder in years of scarcity, a well manured plot was put under *Sundhia* and the crop was ratooned. The first crop was harvested while full flowering and given to the cattle. The second crop (ratooned) was also similarly harvested; and the field was exhausted with the third cropping. It was therefore allowed to mature to seed. The second cutting gave a slightly higher yield than the first and the period required for its ripening was also shorter by about two weeks. The water requirements of the second and the third crops were also much less. The results are very encouraging but the experiments yet require to be continued.

(*iv*) *New Crops.*—'*Garmal*' from Amreli district was introduced on the farm; but the season was unfavourable to the crop.

Besides the above experiments, the favourable results of spacing obtained in cotton last year were put to a further trial on a field scale. The thick planting in rows gave, in spite of a bad season, an average yield of 416 lbs. per acre.

Other activities.

9. The buffalo bull continued to render good service to the cultivators of the surrounding localities. The farm has stocked a very large quantity of pure seed for fodder crops for being supplied to the cultivators.

Jagudan Farm.

10. This farm is located near the Jagudan village in the Mehsana taluka and represents the conditions of the light sandy loam section of the district. The main investigations

conducted on this farm consisted of (1) varietal trials of cotton, tobacco, wheat and monsoon potatoes, (2) manurial trials with tobacco, *sarsav*, and wheat, (3) double cropping, (4) rotation trials, and (5) continuous cropping of lucerne.

(i) *Varietal : Cotton.*—Experiments were laid out to ascertain the relative profits from the two local varieties of *laho* and *Waghad* and the results showed an advantage of about Rs. 16 per bigha in favour of Waghad Independent investigation of the various kinds of cotton of the district, however, indicated that on the farm soil the Waghad variety deteriorated appreciably within a single season. Comparison of samples from other parts of the district showed that the Waghad variety of the farm was inferior both as regards the percentage of *kapas* to bolls and also of lint to seed The fact that the Waghad variety deteriorates on the farm was further confirmed by comparing the farm sample with the samples from the village of Bariap, from which the seed for the farm was obtained. Although this farm can probably grow Waghad cotton, the results of investigations indicated that it could not be used for developing a superior type and for that purpose a more favourably located station would be necessary.

Tobacco.—The experiments to ascertain the possibility of introducing the Charotar variety of tobacco were continued and they confirmed the results obtained last year in favour of it, both in regard to the quantity of yield and market value. The experiments will be continued for another season for further confirmation of these results.

Wheat.—Samples of local varieties were grown to study the varietal characteristics and for selecting some heads for developing the pure type seed; 20 predominent types have been selected for further work in the line.

Monsoon potatoes.—Potato as a monsoon crop was tried but the tubers did not make much progress and the crop failed. The soil sets hard after the rains and does not allow proper development of tubers.

(ii) *Manurial*.—The manurial experiments consisted of the trials on tobacco, wheat and *sarsav* with (1) farm yard manure plus green manure, (2) green manure alone and (3) farm yard manure alone. In every case the combination of green manure plus farm yard manure gave better results. Several tests have confirmed the special advantages of this combination. In connection with the use of a green legume as manure crop, two important points have yet to be investigated, *viz.*, (1) to what extent green manure could replace farm yard manure for other crops and (2) whether green manuring every alternate year would not prove of sufficient advantage. The first point is of considerable importance in view of the general scarcity of manures and of the fact that beyond a certain limit this manure does not increase the yield in direct proportion to the additional dose administered. The potential loss of the monsoon cereal crop every year, in which a legume crop is ploughed in, requires consideration of the second point.

(iii) *Double cropping.*—With a view to ascertain the most profitable combination and succession of

crops in the existing systems of double cropping, two series of experiments were laid out. The first monsoon crop of *bajri* failed on account of heavy rains and full data for drawing any conclusions were not available.

(*iv*) *Rotations*.—With a view to test the advantages of 'resting' the soil under *rabi*, two series of rotations, one of *bajri*, cotton and *tuver*, and the other of *bajri*, cotton, *tuver* and a *rabi* crop of *sarsav*, gram or castor (depending upon the conditions of moisture) have been laid out. No conclusions could be drawn, as the entire rotation was not over.

Oil engine in the farm economy and other activities.

11. The farm maintains two pairs of bullocks and one oil engine for irrigating the crops. It was observed last year that while the engine was running, the bullocks remained idle and it was thought possible to so adjust the field work that the engine could be dispensed with and the entire irrigation done by the farm bullocks. This was tried during the year and the entire irrigation was managed by bullocks. This has effected a saving of over Rs. 700 spent every year in running the engine. The exact conditions under which the use of an oil engine on a farm would prove profitable on the whole has been taken up for detailed study.

A buffalo bull has been maintained on the farm for supplying free service to the cattle of the cultivators in the locality.

Hitherto, this farm was working at an average loss of Rs. 1,000 a year; but during the year under report, it has shown a net profit of Rs. 200 which, considering the unfavourable conditions of the season, may be regarded as very satisfactory.

Dwarka Farm.

12. This farm was opened to demonstrate to the people the cultivation of profitable irrigated crops from the Gomati tank. But since there was no water in the tank, the farm had to be closed during the year; the idea of opening another at Vasai was given up and a sub-inspector was given instead for Dwarka.

Songadh Farm.

13. This farm is intended for giving practical instructions to the students of the Dhanka School at Songadh. The students are required to work on the farm and attend to all the field operations. 36 different kinds of crops were grown on the farm. The receipts of the farm were greater than the amount spent on it during the year.

(*b*) EDUCATIVE WORK.

Work of the Agricultural inspectors.

14. There were four graduate agricultural inspectors, one for each district; and for Okhamandal, which is in an isolated corner, a sub-inspector was specially sanctioned towards the close of the year. The inspectors visited in all 143 villages, demonstrating to the cultivators the use of improved implements and lecturing on agricultural improvements and advantages of co-operation. The main energy of the inspectors was concentrated in two selected talukas of each district. In these talukas they moved about from village to village carrying on seasonal demonstrations and giving advice to the cultivators. They secured 53 orders for improved ploughs, sickles and cane-crushers and distributed over 20,000 lbs. of pure seed of cotton, groundnut, indigo, lucerne, hemp, *jiru*, &c.

Improvements made by a fieldman recently appointed.

15. A temporary *khedut* (fieldman) was appointed for pushing on the cultivation of irrigated crops in the villages near the Wadhwana Tank in Dabhoi Taluka. Through this

man, the department has succeeded in planting in these villages over 30,000 plantain trees, 700 of guavas, 160 of mangoes and 100 cocoanut palms and in introducing the cultivation of some country vegetables. The interest of the cultivators in sugarcane cultivation was also increasing. Under proper guidance, an intelligent and trained cultivator serves as the best medium for introducing improvements. The department has proposed two such trained sugarcane fieldmen, one on the canal area in the Vyara Taluka and another for Kodinar Taluka.

Agricultural associations

16. The total strength of the District and Taluka Agricultural Associations and their membership remained the same as in the last year. The Naosari and Kadi Prant Associations contributed substantial sums towards the demonstrations moving from village to village and helped in supplying good seed and improved implements to the cultivators. The Padra Taluka Association also took interest in introducing improvements among its members. These associations are still in a dormant condition and considerable amount of propaganda in the villages will still be necessary to create an active and conscious interest in the cultivators regarding such organizations.

Associations of village groups.

17. The department has been concentrating its attention in securing co-operation of enthusiastic cultivators who would work under its guidance and serve as media for introducing improvements in their respective villages. The number of 'village group' associations, in which each member is required to undertake some improvement, was increased to ten and they have done substantial work.

Co-operative trials with cultivators.

18. Besides these associations, the system of co-operative trials introduced last year is finding favour with the advanced type of cultivators and the department has succeeded in enlisting the co-operation of over 100 members to try on their

fields improved implements, seeds of different crops, manures, &c.

19. The District Local Boards of Amreli and Kadi continued their interest in agricultural improvements and helped the cultivators in securing seed for special crops and implements. The Kodinar Union continued its cane-crushing and *gul* boiling operations and also introduced the cultivation of pepper, ginger, *jiru* and the Surat variety of cotton in the taluka. Some co-operative societies purchased selected cotton seed from the department.

Assistance from Local Boards, Co-operative Associations, etc

As a result of the district propaganda, the cultivation of groundnut, ginger, turmeric, cane, tobacco, hemp, pepper, *jiru*, &c., in the Amreli District and of ginger, garlic and sugar-cane in the Kadi District was further extended. Pure selected cotton seed enough for over 1,500 bighas was supplied to the cultivators of Naosari, Baroda and Amreli districts. A power crusher was set up in the Naosari district and requisition for another was received during the year.

A general enquiry was instituted to ascertain the usefulness of the implements supplied through the department and the Local Boards, and the replies received from all show that 98 per cent. of the cultivators are satisfied with them but further extension of these implements was hampered by high prices.

20. The school for the children of the cultivators, which was shifted from Jagudan to Baroda, had unfortunately to be closed on account of the paucity of students. The Government had offered 8 scholarships of Rs. 8 each per month, (subsequently raised to Rs. 10) and the Local Boards 9 scholarships of Rs. 8 each. The classes commenced with 11 students; but the majority of them had joined with the idea of securing service and when disillusioned of it, left the school in order to take up service or to join one of the educational training schools.

Agricultural School

(c) Entomology.

Work of the year.

21. The Superintendent of Entomology contiued his field demonstrations for preventing and checking the attacks of *katras*, tobacco stem-borer, sesamum stem-borer, sugarcane borer, jassides on the mango and white ants. Fields of intelligent cultivators in the interior were selected for these demonstrations. The Superintendent also delivered lectures with magic lantern slides to the cultivators of 41 villages.

(d) Veterinary.

Animals treated and the prevalent diseases.

22. There were 7 veterinary dispensaries, one each at Baroda, Naosari, Mehsana, Pattan, Bhadran, Amreli and Vyara. The last named dispensary was opened during the year and two more, for Dabhoi and Kathor, have been sanctioned but could not be opened for want of qualified men. A relieving surgeon was also appointed during the year. The total number of animals treated in these dispensaries amounted to 6,139, as against 5,456 during the preceding year. of these, 4,846 were cured, 356 were relieved, 704 absented, 52 died and 181 remained under treatment at the close of the year. The most common diseases treated were, the specific, nervous, circulatory, eye, ear, skin, lymphatic, digestive and urinary. Cancer in the horn and calculus in the urethra prevailed as in the past to a considerable extent in the Kadi and Amreli districts. From the enquiries conducted by Mr. H. V. Save, it appears that they are mostly attributable to the unsatisfactory condition of drinking water used for cattle. Under the existing conditions, it is, however, impossible to ensure all at once a supply of pure water for cattle in all the villages. Some antidotes are being therefore tried to mitigate the effects of impurities in the water.

There were 63 reports of epidemics of anthrax and foot and mouth diseases, of which 45 were attended to by the

veterinary surgeons. The outbreaks in almost all the cases were of a mild nature.

23. On the recommendation of the department, the Government have exempted the agricultural cattle of the farmers of the State from the payment of one anna fee per head hitherto charged for treatment.

Exemption from fees.

(e) AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING.

24. Mr. S. G. Naravane, the Geologist and Mechanical Engineer, continued to advise the department on questions of agricultural engineering.

The Engineer.

25. It was mentioned last year that the Kala Bhavan Workshops successfully manufactured certain implements after the foreign pattern. In the year under report, about 400 shares of B. T. 2 plough were manufactured there and sold to the cultivators at cost price. 30 improved iron shares of the shoe shape for the country plough, which were specially manufactured in the Kala Bhavan, were tried by the cultivators of Naosari, Baroda and Amreli Districts A Beamon tractor, which the Government had sanctioned, could not be secured from America on account of war restrictions on transport of machinery. The prices of raw materials had so risen that the manufacture of improved implements in Kala Bhavan could not be profitably undertaken. The imported implements were sold at thrice or even four times their pre-war prices and a plough that used to be sold in 1914 at Rs. 13 could not be had in 1917 even at Rs. 40.

Implements.

26. The work of the Boring Branch was also affected by the unfavourable season and the abnormal prices of pipes. Pipes, that used to sell at 8 annas per foot before, were available with difficulty at

Well-boring

Rs. 2-4-0 per foot. The failure of some of the *kharif* crops increased the difficulty and many cultivators withdrew their applications for boring. Twenty wells were however bored, out of which 14 were successful, 5 failed and 1 was incomplete when the year closed.

B.—Commerce.

Administration.

27. The department was under the control of the Joint Sar Suba until 4th December 1917, when it was put in charge of Mr. R. C. Whitnack, M.A., with the designation of Commissioner of Excise, Commerce and Agriculture.

Mr. Manilal B. Nanavati, B A , LL.B., held the office of the Director of Commerce and Industry throughout the year under report. Mr. S. M. Pagar joined the department in the month of August and remained in it as an understudy till the end of the year. Mr. Sevaklal D. Parikh of the Revenue Department worked in this department in connection with the rural survey of Bhadkat under Petlad, the report of which was under preparation when the year closed.

(*a*) Enquiries and Investigations.

Enquiry into the economic condition of the people

28. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb was pleased to appoint a committee of officials and non-officials to enquire into the economic condition of the people and the measures to be adopted for further development of the resources of the State. A number of witnesses were examined and the report was under preparation.

Industrial investigations Woollen goods

29. The question of the manufacture of woollen goods has been under inquiry. Information was being collected regarding the quality and quantity of wool available in the State

and the method of its disposal; at the same time some samples of local wool were sent to Kamptee.

Wood-distillation.

30. Mr. K. R. Dotivala was sent to the Tata Research Laboratory at Bangalore to distil some of the principal kinds of wood found in our forests. The investigation was not over when the year closed. The Western India Industrial Syndicate has been granted a prospecting license to investigate this problem in the State forests.

Salt

31. The same syndicate is interested in the question of salt and allied chemical industries. Some samples of brine from Dwarka were sent to Dr Mann for analysis and the results disclose the possibility of manufacturing from it magnesium salts.

Forest Research

32. With a view to carry on a systematic investigation of our forest resources, Mr. Kapilram H. Vakil, the Research Chemist to Messrs. Tata & Sons, was invited. He visited our laboratories and has proposed that a small laboratory should be specially started to test the forest products. A proposal in this behalf is expected to be before Government after some more inquiries are made.

(*b*) INDUSTRIES.

Conditions of the Old Industries

33. The year under report continued to be favourable for the existing industries and most of them worked continuously and at a profit. The Vaso Dyeing and Bleaching Factory was sent into liquidation but the machinery was purchased by Mr. Vaghjibhai Patel of Bhadran. He has also purchased the building of the old leather factory, where he proposes to set up the machinery. Arrangements were likewise being made by the proprietors of the old Twine

Factory at Baroda to work it. The Chemical Works at Navsari have changed hands and the new proprietor, Mr. Randelia, was making arrangements to continue the works. The Gaekwar Sugar Factory has now been leased and is expected to start the work very shortly.

New Industries

34. The application (to which a reference was made in the last report) from a merchant of Dammnagar for a lease of the Charakla creek in Okhamandal for the manufacture of alkali and other chemical products from brine and salt was still before Government, as the question of giving a monopoly requires careful consideration in view of the possibility of other companies asking for similar privileges.

The joint stock company for the manufacture of Mangalore pattern tiles, to which a reference was made last year, has since been started and the work of constructing the factory has already been begun. Three other smaller factories for manufacturing similar tiles have also started work at Billimora and Navsari. The manufacture of flooring tiles and terracotta has been undertaken by another concern on a small scale at Gandevi; there is thus every possibility of Gandevi being developed into a pottery district in a short time. The proprietors of the Ransipur China Clay Refinery have asked for an extension of the lease and, as soon as it is sanctioned, they propose to add Pottery Works to the Refinery. A saw mill has recently begun work at Baroda as a proprietary concern.

Loans to Industries.

35. In the beginning of the year, there was one old application for a loan of Rs. 50,000 before Government and this was sanctioned. During the year, four fresh applications arrived, of which 2 were sanctioned to the extent of Rs. 2,05,000 : 2 lakhs for the Shri Sayaji Cotton and Jute Mills Co., Ltd., Sidhpur, for the extension of their factory, and Rs. 5,000 were given to

Kansara Amthalal of Baroda for the manufacture of copper sheets. One application was rejected and one was under consideration.

Other concessions

36. The levy of octroi on raw materials by the Municipalities and Vishistha Panchayats must necessarily have an adverse effect on infant industries. With a view to foster such industries, the local bodies were induced, successfully in some cases and unsuccessfully in others, to exempt such articles from the schedule as are generally wanted by industrial concerns. In the case of those bodies that were recalcitrant, no coercive measures could be adopted and to meet such a contingency, Government have in view an amendment in the law regarding local bodies so as to reserve to themselves the powers of exempting any industrial concern from the payment of *jakat* and a bill to that effect will shortly be introduced in the Dhara Sabha. At the same time, Government are not oblivious of the resulting loss to these bodies and will consider the question of compensating any body when special circumstances warrant such treatment.

Priority Certificates.

37. Preliminary inquiries regarding the question of giving priority for importing machinery and accessories were dealt with by this department. 28 such applications were inquired into during the year.

(c) WEAVING.

Handloom weaving demonstrations.

38. The staff in this branch consisted of one assistant, three demonstrators and three weavers. The demonstrators with the weavers worked in the Kadi, Navsari and Baroda districts: the Kadi party worked at Visnagar, Gojaria, Langhnaj, Saldi, Aithor and Unava; the Baroda party at Petlad, Sojitra, Vatav and Simarada; and the Navsari demonstrator carried on the work at Gandevi, Dhamdachha and

Billimora. Improved fly-shuttle looms could not be introduced in a larger number among the weavers, principally owing to the high prices of loom-accessories and the general apathy among the weaving classes for the introduction of new methods and devices. However, a number of weavers in Gandevi did adopt improved dobbies. Thus, during the year, only 35 fly-shuttle looms, 16 dobbies and a few warping and winding machines could be introduced.

The weaving assistant supervised the working of the demonstration parties and carried on experiments for improving the present mechanism of looms. Two factories at Baroda and two at Petlad have been launched for manufacturing warps. Some merchants were also persuaded to erect hand-loom factories at Visnagar and Petlad.

(*d*) FISHERIES.

Mr Hornell on our fisheries

39. Mr. Hornell, the Marine Biologist to the Government of Madras, was requested to inspect the work carried on by our fishery assistants and to advise Government on the further development of the industry. Mr Hornell visited Okha and Kodinar in December and expressed his satisfaction with what was being done by the assistants and recommended Government to continue the two stations. He further submitted his report embodying his suggestions and programmes both for Okhamandal and Kodinar.

Kodinar fishery.

40. During the year under report, there was one fishery station in Okhamandal. The other one at Velan was discontinued as the fishermen did not come in sufficient numbers, since they could get good freight at high prices owing to the war. The fishery assistant at Kodinar, who was thus relieved of his work, was sent to Bangalore to work on the distillation of wood in the Tata Research Laboratory.

41. The Okha fishery was in charge of Mr. S. R. Gupte. Balapur harbour and Kiu were selected for the cultivation of window pane oysters. A little over 185,000 immature oysters were relaid during the year; as most of these appeared to have grown and thriven, the transplantation will now be undertaken on a much larger scale than was hitherto done as an experimental measure.

Okha fishery.

The inspection of the west coast of Okha was undertaken with a view to locate new chank-beds south of Katchhigad. Except at Madhi, Baradia and Katchhigad, the ground does not seem to be suitable. The year was again unfavourable for inspection To arrive at correct results, the inspection will have to be continued for a year or two more.

The method so long adopted was to pick up the oysters when the tide receded, with the result that oysters lying in deeper waters remained unfished To collect such oysters dredgers were employed, but not with appreciable success. They will however be tried again with some modifications.

(e) Geological Survey.

42. Detailed work in this line was undertaken according to the recommendations of the previous survey; and Sankheda taluka was taken in hand in groups consisting of Achalli, Jojwa, the Heran river valley and the Orsang river valley.

Geological Survey

Although the results of these surveys have shown that we cannot expect large mineral deposits in Sankheda taluka, they are of importance as showing how far Government can go in the direction of mineral development. In the absence of a suitable assay furnace in India, the assay work, which forms an important part of analysis, had to be postponed and the views of the geologist could not be confirmed. Samples of ten different kinds of marble have been collected.

from Motipura, Sunadra and round about and sent to merchants in Bombay with a view to induce them to open the quarries on a large scale.

(*f*) Statistical Bureau.

Bureau of statistics

43. The principal work in this branch consists of the preparation of the statistical abstract of the State and the collection of statistics regarding rail-borne traffic and industries. The revised statistical abstract for the year 1916-17 was in the press when the year closed and the statistics of the rail-borne traffic were being collected. Certain forms regarding industrial statistics, which were defective, were corrected and figures called for according to the revised forms.

C.—Agricultural Banks.

Agricultural Banks in the State.

44. There were four agricultural banks working as in the last year. The following table gives a combined statement of the financial position of the banks :—

Statement showing the financial position of the Agricultural Banks.

No	Items	Songhad Bank 1916-17 Rs a p	Songhad Bank 1917-18 Rs a p	Vyara Bank 1916-17 Rs a p	Vyara Bank 1917-18 Rs a p	Bhadran Bank 1916-17 Rs a p	Bhadran Bank 1917-18 Rs a p	Amreli Bank 1916-17 Rs a p	Amreli Bank 1917-18 Rs a p
1	Nominal Capital .	12,500 0 0	12,500 0 0	14,190 0 0	14,190 0 0	1 00 000 0 0	1 00,000 0 0	50,000 0 0	50,000 0 0
2	Paid-up Capital—								
	(1) State	6,250 0 0	6,250 0 0	6 250 0 0	6,250 0 0	21,664 0 0	21,664 0 0	18,750 0 0	18,750 0 0
	(2) Private	4,560 0 0	4,560 0 0	7,940 0 0	7 940 0 0	21 921 0 0	22,223 0 0	5,707 8 0	6,655 0 0
3	Deposits at the end of the year	1,888 15 9	2 14 3	7 358 8 2	9 557 15 0	12 860 3 0	18 352 11 3	10,311 6 10	18,137 2 11
4	Reserve Fund .	9 186 6 5	9 320 15 2	7,830 11 10	7,929 10 0	1,481 10 9	1,481 10 9	854 1 1	1 006 1 1
5	Surplus Fund	1,165 11 8	2 351 12 6	507 10 4	419 15 4	1 722 8 7	1,740 10 10	2 829 1 1	2 982 5 8
6	Net profit ..	1 353 14 7	844 3 9	861 12 7	1 055 11 7	2 706 0 3	3 058 12 1	1 529 3 4	1 239 0 5
7	Loans recovered by the Banks .	10,418 0 2	4,432 2 2	13,741 8 8	7 903 4 3	48 311 1 6	39,516 9 3	10 239 1 0	8 874 8 7
8	Loans outstanding at the end of the year—								
	(1) Co-operative Societies	1,726 12 9	1,647 4 0	249 7 11	5,202 8 2	20 535 9 9	20 717 0 0	6,620 9 8	13,553 15 3
	(2) Individual Khatedars	17,040 15 10	14,169 4 8	11,311 1 8	14,520 0 2	24,685 9 0	41,021 11 3	17,240 10 10	14,485 6 9
9	Cash and other investments	6,344 15 1	7,515 9 9	19,240 10 0	13 387 13 9	16,838 1 7	7,070 13 8	16,310 10 10	20,815 12 7
10	Total outstanding (8 and 9)	25,112 11 8	23,332 2 5	30,801 3 7	33,110 6 1	62,059 4 4	68,809 8 11	40,171 15 4	48,855 2 7

45. The Bhadran Bank was well managed and continued to do good work. There was apparently some overstrictness, as mentioned in the last report, in advancing loans, which scared away some of the *bona fide* borrowers with the result that a considerable cash balance lay idle. This defect was partly cured during the year. The Bank did more business with co-operative societies than before.

Bhadran Bank

46. The Amreli Bank continued to do fairly good work under the guidance of Mr N. K. Aloni, the President The deposits in the Bank had increased, which showed that the confidence in the Bank was strengthened. But unfortunately there was a large number of old loans given to individuals still unrecovered.

Amreli Bank

The present business of the Bank was confined to co-operative societies and the old loans to individuals were being recalled. At the end of the year, loans to the extent of Rs. 14,405 were outstanding, against Rs. 17,246 at the beginning of the year. It undertook the liquidation of debts of some of the solvent members of the Nana Machiala Co-operative Society, just as it did in the case of Fatehpur in 1916-17. There are still large cash balances, which can be made available to other societies in a similar manner.

47. The Songhad Bank was still in the process of reorganization. All the outstanding loans were called in, wherever possible and in other cases fresh documents were made securing the loans. All the preliminary work of reorganization was finished and the Bank will commence work in the current year.

Songhad Bank.

48. This is a well managed institution possessing very good credit. Its loans have increased especially to co-operative societies and

Vyara Pedhi

attempts will be made to extend its financing capacity for the benefit of the co-operative societies of three more talukas in the Navsari District.

49. Experience of the last several years has proved conclusively that these banks were useless for financing small agriculturists. For them the co-operative societies are the best medium and the banks should confine their dealings to the latter. At the same time it may be found possible for these banks to deal with bigger *khatedars* and to finance large scale agricultural improvements, a business which can not conveniently be managed by co-operative societies. With that object the existing rules were revised and the draft of an Agricultural Bank Act was under consideration of Government.

Banks are useful to co-operative societies

D.—Boiler Inspection.

50. The charge of Boiler Inspector was held by Mr. S. M. Dighe throughout the year. He also worked as Inspector of Factories under the Sar Suba There were 182 factories in the State using steam boilers, against 175 in the previous year. Out of 212 boilers on the register, 11 were Government and 201 private. Of the latter, as in the previous year, 135 were in use from which fees were received. The income from fees, etc., came to Rs. 3,725 and the expenditure on the inspecting staff, etc., to Rs. 3,939. The corresponding figures for these items in the previous year were Rs. 3,795 and Rs. 2,577 respectively. The increase in expenditure during the year was due to the special allowance given to the Inspector for inspecting the factories.

Boiler Inspection

There were no prosecutions, nor were any accidents reported under the Boiler Act.

E.—Printing Press and Stationery.

Printing Press.

51. During the year, printing for all the Departments of the State was done by the State Contractor at a total cost of Rs. 85,012, which, compared with that of the previous year, shows an increase of Rs. 19,830. The increase was due to the high prices of materials. The contractor was given 50 per cent. increase over his contract rates for paper supplied during 1915-16 and the expense was debited during the year under report.

The Committee, appointed to check the increasing expenditure on printing in the State, completely revised the printing of forms as well as of the 'Adnya Patrika'. The report of the Committee was submitted for information of Government and the changes, proposed by the Committee and authorized by Government, were carried out.

Stationery

52. As regards stationery, all offices were permitted to make their own arrangements, as in the last year, for the purchase of necessary articles within their budgetted contingency grants, since no contract could be given for the supply owing to fluctuating and high prices.

F.—Co-operative Societies.

Registrar

53. The office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies was held throughout the year by Mr. Manilal B. Nanavati, B.A., LL.B.

(a) GENERAL.

Number of Societies.

54. The policy of consolidation rather than of expansion was continued during the year. However, as a result of the improved and useful working of the existing societies, there were many demands for new registration of which only 46

were effected, bringing the total number of registered societies to 371; of these, twelve hopelessly bad societies were cancelled, leaving 359 at the end of the year. Two of these were central banks, two banking unions, 316 agricultural credit, 4 agricultural non-credit, 33 non-agricultural credit, and two non-agricultural non-credit societies.

Membership and financial position.

55. The total membership increased from 10,994 to 11,958, the working capital from Rs. 11,27,409 to Rs. 13,07,693, and the reserve fund from Rs. 1,35,504 to Rs. 1,61,035. The net profit earned was Rs. 46,543 against Rs. 40,203 in the previous year. The deposits received by the societies also increased from Rs. 4,27,170 to Rs. 6,27,719 The average membership per society remained almost the same as last year, *viz.*, 33 3, while the working capital per society increased from Rs. 3,469 to Rs. 3.643 and from Rs. 102 to Rs. 109 per member. The total amount of loans made during the year was Rs 9,78,263 against Rs. 7,74,381 in the preceding year. Out of Rs. 8,39,789 due at the end of the year. Rs. 79,350 were overdue for which all the four districts were more or less responsible

(*b*) CENTRAL BANKS AND BANKING UNIONS.

Central Banks.

56. The Mehsana District Bank organised last year commenced its working during the year, but was not able to cope with the demands of the societies which had, therefore, to be supplied by the Baroda Central Bank. This latter continued to do very useful work with increased transactions as in the past. It has now been able to satisfy all the demands of societies in the Baroda District for current purposes. It financed societies to the extent of Rs. 1,82,559 and had at the end of the year Rs. 1,81,620 as deposits. The corresponding figures for the last year were Rs. 1,56,543 and Rs. 1,51,583 respectively.

57. Both the Banking Unions (Navsari and Kodinar) have shown considerable progress during the year. The Navsari Union advanced loans to societies liberally and punctually. It has, however, not been able to get sufficient deposits from the investing population and therefore stands in need of help from Government. The Kodinar Union showed greater activities in the matter of advancing loans and carrying on other improvements. It had 5 more societies affiliated to it during the year, making a total of 35 and had Rs. 36,735 in deposits. The Poona *gul* making furnace has been introduced in the Taluka ; better seed was supplied to the members ; and the liquidation of old debts has been taken in hand. The members of the societies in the Kodinar Taluka have now scarcely to resort to the *sahukars* for any loans.

Banking Unions

(c) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

58. At the end of the year, there were 320 agricultural societies and they were distributed as under .—

Number of Agricultural Societies.

District	1915-16	1916-17	1917-18.
Baroda . . .	122	121	133
Kadi	60	64	68
Navsari	47	44	51
Amreli .. .	66	61	68
Total	295	290	320

Out of 320 agricultural societies, 316 are credit and 4 non-credit.

(i) *Credit.*

Baroda District

59. As in point of the number of societies, so in general progress, the Baroda district leads all other districts of the State The societies increased from 119 to 129. Karjan, Baroda, Petlad and Bhadran have advanced fairly well; Sinor, Dabhoi and Savli were still backward; Padra was improving under the energetic supervision of the Honorary Organizer, Mr. Taljabhai Nathabhai. Many weak societies have been weeded out and there were still some more, which suffered for want of good and efficient secretaries

Kadi District

60. Four new societies were organised during the year in the district, making a total of 68. Many weak societies have shown improvement under the guidance of the honorary organizers; more substantial progress, however, can be expected when the Mehsana Bank is in a position to satisfy all the requirements of the societies of the district. The present arrangement of financing the societies in this district from the Baroda Central Bank is inconvenient and causes much delay. Every attempt was being made to render the working of the Mehsana Bank efficient and really useful to the societies.

Navsari District.

61. The number of societies in this district increased from 44 to 51. Mahuva taluka showed some development under the guidance of the Honorary Organizer, Mr. Jehangirjee; and Gandevi has made a good beginning. This district, which is generally found to be slow at responding to the co-operative idea for reasons mentioned in previous reports, has during the year shown some progress and it can be hoped that the few Rasti and Rani talukas, which are still outside the scope of co-operative influence, will soon follow the good example of the other talukas.

62. There was an increase of 7 societies, bringing the total to 68. Most of these were in the Kodinar taluka. This taluka has also shown very good improvement in the management of old societies. Recoveries were good in almost all the societies. In the Amreli taluka also some improvement was noticeable. The Amreli Agricultural *Pedhi* has undertaken to finance the Amreli societies which have all been affiliated to it.

Amreli District.

(ii) *Non-credit.*

63. The number of societies in this group remained the same as last year, *viz.*, 4. They comprised two milk-supply societies at Nizampura and Sayajipura and two irrigation societies at Sarar and Bhurakui. The two milk societies purchased 1,60,756 lbs. of milk from their members and disposed it of in the city of Baroda at a profit of Rs. 983. The supply of milk fell this year on account of the scarcity of fodder. Government has given a lease for three years of the Ferkui *bid* to the Sayajipura society with some concessions in assessment. This step will help the society a great deal to increase its membership and cattle.

Number and condition of non-credit societies.

The Sarar Agricultural Society has unfortunately come to a wrecking point and was about to be dissolved on account of the high prices of oil and the mistake made by its promoters in selecting an unfavourable site for setting up the pump and boiler. The other society at Bhurakui has started work and has proved very useful to the members.

(*d*) NON-AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

64. The number of non-agricultural societies rose from 31 to 35 and except 2, all of them were credit societies. Of these, 5 were Government Servants' societies, 15 Weavers', 4

Non-Agricultural Societies.

Chamars' and 2 Antyajas'; besides these, there were 2 stores and 7 urban societies.

Government Servants' societies.

65. Of the Government Servants' societies, the 2 societies at Baroda maintained their reputation for useful and progressive work. Their membership increased from 401 and 49 to 430 and 137; the working capital from Rs. 31,505 and 9,632 to Rs. 38,770 and 11,131; and deposits from Rs. 25,300 and 7,675 to Rs. 30,802 and 8,686 respectively. All the loans were punctually paid without any default. The Government Servants' societies at Navsari, Amreli and Mehsana did work on a smaller basis.

Urban Banks.

66. Of the 7 urbans banks, 4 were at Baroda. The Mutual Help Society (*Anyoanya Sahakari Mandali*) showed satisfactory progress. Its membership increased from 249 to 316, the working capital from Rs. 57,226 to Rs. 72,596 and the deposits from Rs. 52,565 to Rs. 62,798. The Baroda City Urban Society began work during the year but it did not amount to much. The other two societies in the Baroda City were composed of Mahomedans living in Nawapura. Both of them showed satisfactory progress. The Vaso Bank increased its business during the year under report and, besides granting loans to individual members, made loans to societies situated in the villages round Vaso. In the remaining societies no special work was done; and the Sinor and the Amreli societies may have to be closed.

Other Societies.

67. There was an increase of three societies of weavers, bringing the number to fifteen. Most of them were doing fairly good work, but the chief difficulty was to secure trained secretaries. A group secretary was appointed to do the writing work of the societies in the Pattan group. If this experiment proves successful, it will be tried in the case of the other societies.

The three Chamars' societies did good work and there was a demand of these people for more societies, but it could not be satisfied on account of the difficulty of getting men to keep accounts. In the meanwhile arrangements have been made by the department to provide a special man for them.

The Co-operative Store

68. The Co-operative Store at Baroda continued to be in a dormant condition. The total sales during the year amounted to Rs. 3,212 against Rs 6,494 in the previous year. It worked at a loss The members want credit for their purchases which the society cannot extend. The principal business of the society was confined to the recovery of old debts. When this is done, it may have to be closed.

The Milk Store.

69. The milk store at Baroda suffered much in its business on account of the scarcity of milk in the surrounding villages from which its supply was received. Its chief source was the Nizampura Milk-supply Society, which did not furnish it even with half the usual quantity of milk. At the same time, plague was raging in the city for several months, when the customers went out of the city and the depot had to incur additional expenses to supply milk to its members However, it tried its best to cope with the situation and carried on its business without loss. It supplied during the year 96,712 lbs. of milk against 1,15,472 in the previous year, making a profit of Rs 94.

(e) MISCELLANEOUS.

Conferences.

70. A general conference on co-operative work was intended to be held but had to be abandoned on account of widespread plague. Two district conferences were held, one at Amreli and the other at Kosamba for Navsari District. There were besides, two taluka conferences held in the Baroda District.

71. Two training classes were held at Mehsana and Amreli in the months of October and May and were attended by the secretaries of the societies, honorary organizers, Tajwijdars and the munims of the *Pedhi*. The classes were conducted by the Registrar, Mr. Pagar and Mr. Adhikari and the auditors in different subjects. Government has accorded sanction to hold these classes every year from 1918-19 in each district.

Training Classes

72. The policy of appointing honorary organizers for each taluka, as far as possible, was adopted with much success. In all, six new organizers have been appointed who have justified their appointment by their good work.

Honorary Organizers

73. The *Kheti and Sahakarya* continued to be published by the Department for the information and guidance of societies and the general public.

The Quarterly.

G.—Forests.

74. There was no change in the personnel: Mr. R. H. Madan, who is a retired British Forest Officer, having completed his term of engagement for the period of five years, was re-engaged for two years as Conservator from 23rd June 1918. He was helped by two assistants in the forest administration.

Personnel.

(*a*) Constitution and Management of Forests.

75. The total forest area at the close of the year 1917-18 was 633·8 square miles of reserved and 4·9 square miles of protected forests. The important augmentation consisted of the acquisition of 3,120 bighas of hill and mountain lands at,

Total forest area.

and around, the Salher Fort. The tree growth here at lofty elevation from above 3,000 feet consists of the evergreen type, such as, mango, *jambul*, *hirda*, *umber*, *&c.*, in association with deciduous species of *sadra*, *dhavra*, *asana*, *khair*, *nana*, *bondara*, &c. It was quite necessary to bring these lands under systematic forest conservancy, for the ruthless destruction of trees had already gone on too far and the lands presented a denuded appearance. The total forest area is shown in the following statement :—

Item.	Area on 1st August 1917	Added during the year	Excluded or transferred during the year	Area on 31st July 1918.
1	2	3	4	5
	Bighas	Bighas	Bighas.	Bighas.
Reserved forests	6,87,005	3,176	11	6,90,170
Protected forests .	5,367	...	10	5,357
Total	6,92,372	3,176	21	6,95,527

Repairs to boundary cairns.

76. The cost incurred during the year for the repairs to forest boundary pillars and cairns amounted to Rs. 14. Some boundary pillars on the frontier between Gir and the Junagadh State forests and some on the boundaries between Sankheda and the adjoining State of Chhota Udepur underwent repairs.

Boundary line between Sagbara and Vajpur-Nanchhal.

77. Our Boundary Branch executed the work, which had been pending for many years, of laying down the exact boundary line between the Sagbara State and our Vajpur and Nanchhal (Umerpada) jungles.

78. All, save the two forest ranges of Vajpur and Vankal (Nanchhal region), are now under regular working plans on the system of coppice with standards with a rotation of 40 years for the regenerating crop.

Progress in the application of Working Plans

79. The improvemental fellings on a rotation of 20 years, mentioned in the last year's report, were applied tentatively to the forest tracts of Vajpur and Nanchhal and the results obtained in finding purchasers at remunerative prices justified the continuance of this method again during the year of the report.

Success in improvemental fellings.

(*b*) COMMUNICATIONS AND BUILDINGS.

80. The programme of constructing forest buildings in the Naosari district was not fully completed and the rapidity of execution noticed in the preceding year had fallen off. The road projects were almost completed with the exception of the Khant-Umerpada hill section, which is the principal outlet for export of forest produce from Nanchhal. The construction of a forest depôt at Zankhwao in Vankal Range at an estimated cost of Rs. 3,930 was sanctioned during the year, while proposals for the erection of forest posts at Kala-Amba and Padamdungri in Mahuva Range and Ambapani and Pimpalwada in Vyara Range were before Government.

Programme of construction not completed.

81. A fair weather bridge for carts laden with timber was constructed by the Forest Department at Nindwada at a cost of Rs. 650 and was found to serve a very useful purpose. It spanned the bed of the Tapti over a breadth of 600 feet of running water.

A fair weather bridge across the Tapti.

82. The expenditure on forest buildings, roads and wells upto the end of the year is given in the following table for Naosari District and the Gir Range :—

Expenditure on forest works.

Nature of Works.	Total expenditure up to end of 1917-18.	Amount remaining to be expended.
	Rs.	Rs.
Buildings (Naosari)	2,60,497	39,313
Do. (Gir Range)	27,738	10,514
Roads (Naosari) . .	38,967	. .
Wells (Naosari) . .	18,225	1,579

(*c*) Protection of Forests.

83. The details of forest offences under the several heads are shown in the following statement. There was an increase of 28 cases, out of which 15 occurred in the newly created Attarsumba range. The Vankal and Sankheda ranges with their outlying forests in the midst of populous villages showed also slight increases.

Forest offences

Year	Offences relating to			Miscellaneous.	Total.
	Forest produce	Grazing.	Fire		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1917–18 ..	68	30	26	26	150
1916–17 .	60	26	25	11	122

There were 109 cases compounded under the Forest Act, and 10 cases were referred to Magistrates for disposal with the result that prosecutions were successful in half that number, while offenders remained undetected in 15 cases and 16 were pending investigation.

Successful fire protection

84. The year was again a successful one in the matter of protecting forests against fires. In the Gir range, however, some fires were caused by the outlaws who were roaming along the borders of Gir and Junagadh forests. The total area traversed by fires was 9,867 bighas equal to 14 per cent. of the aggregate forest area, while in the year preceding it was 5,666 bighas. There were in all 26 reported cases of forest incendiarism, out of which offenders were apprehended in 11 ; 9 of these were compounded and 2 referred to Magistrates for disposal The highest percentage of detection was in Songhad, which speaks well of the exertions of the staff there.

Burning of fire lines

85 The burning of fire lines on our borders towards the Khandesh District and the British Dangs was carried out carefully and in co-operation with the forest subordinates on both sides and consequently no outside fires crossed the frontier into our territory Thanks are also due to the Nandod State for the ready help given by its authorities in this matter. A similar harmonious working on the side of Sagbara State bordering on Vajpur is still a desideratum.

The total outlay of Rs 4 397 was incurred on measures of fire-protection, such as, cutting and burning fire lines, entertaining fire-watchers and maintaining drum-stations.

Cattle grazing in forests.

86. The area opened to grazing aggregated 6,52,365 bighas out of the total forest area of 6,90,170. The maximum closure is limited to one-fourth of the area of each forest block where working plans have been introduced. It will be yet several years before this proportion can be fully reached,

as the working plans have been initiated only since the last three to five years.

Destruction of harmful climbers.

87. Rs. 195 were defrayed for the cutting of harmful creepers and climbers in all the ranges, in accordance with a rough plan with a cycle of ten years In the Mahuwa range, some valuable forests of teak and other timber in Keori were freed from the grasp of huge climbers. Similarly the forests of Pavta in the Gir Range were freed of the tangled growth of climbers which was rampant in the black soil.

(*d*) SYLVICULTURE.

Lac cultivation and revenue.

88. An outlay of Rs. 175 was made on the pruning of 60,000 Khakar (butea frondosa) trees for inoculation with lac-bearing insects. The total realization from the sâle of lac for the year was Rs. 9,670 as against Rs. 14,240, the short yield as a result of the ravages of black ants being responsible for the fall in the revenue.

Coppice regeneration.

89. Coppice regeneration in the numerous exploited coupes has been satisfactory and the natural germination from self-sown seeds under the shelter of parent trees presented an encouraging spectacle, where the soil was deep and good.

Effects of capricious rainfall.

90. The rainfall was very capricious with long breaks during August and September, followed again by heavy rains so late as the end of October. Young plants laid out from the nurseries in the forests suffered somewhat from these alternate favourable and trying conditions.

Expenditure on forest nurseries.

91. A total expenditure of Rs. 406 was incurred on cultural operations and in rearing plants in nurseries in Sankheda, Songhad and Attarsumbha.

92. Fortified by the success of the results of sowing mowra seeds in the Gir forests, similar operations on a very much larger scale were undertaken at the commencement of the monsoon of 1918; but looking to the subsequent break in the rains, no successful germination can be expected except perhaps in the moister region of Naosari. The economic value of the tree is very great, owing to the possibility of extracting acetone and allied products from the corollas of the flowers, while the vegetable fat from the seed cotyledons can be utilized for preparing margarine, soap, glycerine, etc. Mr. G. M. Ryan, retired Conservator of the Bombay Presidency, recently read a paper on the vast economic possibilities of the Mowra tree, before the Industrial Section of the Royal Society of Arts and Commerce, London, and recommended to the Secretary of State for India the desirability of extensive cultivation of this tree in forests and waste lands in all parts of India.

Economic possibilities of the Mowra tree.

93. Ten pounds of *sandal* seeds were procured from Mysore and distributed in Sankheda and Gir for experimental sowings.

Experiments with *sandal* seeds.

94. In the newly opened Attarsumba Range in the Kadi Division, where the indigenous vegetation is of the dry type of acacia species, forest protection is resulting in the cessation of the mischievous practice of wood stealing, which is in itself a solid advantage in the way of augmenting the supply of firewood.

Forest protection in the Attarsumba range.

95. Experiments were initiated on a fairly large scale for the purpose of introducing bamboos and several varieties of the more valuable kinds of timber and firewood in these dry forests along the banks of the Watrak river.

Plantation of bamboos, &c., in Attarsumba.

96. 100 plants of date were reported to have sprung up in the Attarsumba range from out of a small packet of the Basra *khajur*.

Basra dates.

Nursery in Attarsumba

97. A fairly large local nursery has been established at Fulji-movada for the rearing of plants. A small temporary well, sunk in the bed of the nulla close by, furnishes plentiful supply of water. There were thus reared here 17,000 plants of different species, such as, *teak*, *khair*, *kanti*, *blackwood*, *samar*, *beheda*, *biya*, *sadra*, *kalam*, *dhamoda*, *sevan*, *etc.* Out of these, 1,250 were put out in the forests, the rest being too small for transplantation. 400 seedlings of different kinds were also imported from the Lachhres nursery of the Sankheda range.

(e) FOREST PRODUCE AND REVENUE.

Fellings of trees

98. Clear fellings were confined to the cutting and removal of nine kinds of trees from the *Kheti* blocks in Vajpur and Vankal (Nanchhal region) ranges. The improvemental fellings, confined to the marking and removal of over-mature, dead, dying and diseased trees with a girth of about 24 inches in the case of teak and above 36 inches for other kinds, were carried out to the following extent with successful financial results :—

Locality.	Area.	Price realised.
1	2	3
	Bighas.	Rs.
Nindwada (Vajpur)	7,700	33,005
Ghata (Vankal)	1,072	2,105
Total ..	8,772	35,110

99. The coppice with 'standards' method of exploitation dealt with a total of 65 coupes spread over 7 ranges during the year, the particulars of which are given below. The top price was fetched by the Mahua range which is penetrated by the newly opened Bilimora-Kala-Amba railway.

Prices realized for timber and firewood.

Ranges.	Number of coupes	Aggregate area in Bighas.	Total realization.	Average realization per Bigha.
1	2	3	4	5
			Rs	Rs
Vyara	13	1,903	36,524	19
Mahua .. .	6	641	21,145	32
Sadadwel . ..	15	1 699	26,169	16
Songhad	19	3,673	31,172	8
Vankal	7	476	1,528	3
Sankheda ..	4	254	582	2
Gir	1	300	301	1
Total ..	65	8,946	1,17,421	13

100. The rights of farming out important articles of minor forest produce fetched amounts as detailed below :—

Sale of minor produce.

Forest produce.	1916-17.	1917-18.
1	2	3
	Rs.	Rs.
Lac	14,240	9,670
Mowra flowers .. .	1,305	1,753 (Mowra flowers and Mowra seeds)
Mowra seeds	425	
Rosha	...	476
Asintra leaves . .	1,251	855
Timru leaves	969	3,417*
Total ..	18,190	16,171

101. The distillation of Rosha oil was carried out experimentally for the first time in the Nessu forest tracts of Songhad range with success. The yield of 2 stills was $3\frac{7}{8}$ maunds, which at the rate of Rs. 122-8-0 per maund (40 seers) realized Rs. 476 against an expenditure of Rs. 141, thus giving a net profit of Rs. 335. Owing to the stoppage of export due to war, mowra seeds could not realize favourable prices in recent years.

Distillation of rosha oil.

102. The total grazing revenue was Rs. 37,813 against Rs. 41,541. The decrease was due to the failure of the monsoon which began to be perceptible about the close of the year with the result that outside cattle did not seek pasturage in the Gir jungles to the extent they used to before. A comparative table of the grazing receipts is subjoined below :—

Grazing revenue.

Year	Baroda and Naosari.	Kadi	Amreli.*	Total.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs	Rs	Rs	Rs
1915-16	22,539	..	15,130	37,669
1916-17 . .	20,465	604	20,471	41,541
1917-18	21,445	411	15,957	37,813

103. The removal of forest produce on permits issued from the *nakas* brought in the following receipts:—

Removal of produce on permits

Teak.	Firewood.	Bamboo.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5
Rs.	Rs	Rs	Rs.	Rs.
91	633	93,453	5,571	99,748

104. The bamboo revenue was exceptionally high and is the largest known on record, having fetched Rs. 93,453 as against Rs. 48,182 in 1916-17 and Rs. 34,951 in 1915-16. Owing to the unprecedented demand for bamboo for war and other purposes, the prices of this commodity ranged very high. There was some enquiry made for the manufacture of paper-pulp from bamboos, but since there has already been a keen demand for them for domestic purposes and for manufacture of baskets and other articles of daily use, there is little stock left for this paper industry.

Revenue from bamboos.

105. The value of free grants of timber made to villagers living on the borders of forests in the Naosari Prant was Rs 8,445

Free timber to villagers

106 The following statement compares the financial results of the year with those of 1916-17

Financial results

Head	1917-18	1916-17
	Rs.	Rs
Revenue	3,24,170	2,47,966
Expenditure	88,077	85,111
Surplus	2,36,093	1,62,855

The financial results are again better and the total revenue showed an increase of Rs 76,204, while the surplus has risen by Rs. 73,238.

107. These results are attributable to the development and application of systematic working plans, the high market prices of timber and other forest produce, and the keener competition engendered as a consequence of affording legitimate facilities to wood merchants.

Causes of rise in receipts

CHAPTER VII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

A.—Public Works Branch.

(*a*) ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL.

Personnel.

1. Mr. A. H. Coyle worked as Chief Architect and in that capacity looked after the construction and management of architectural and bigger buildings in the City. In addition to that, he looked after the archæological buildings in the State and had charge of the Electrical, Garden and Palace Divisions, as also of the Works Branch and the State Furniture Works as head of the department. Mr. V. R. Akolker, L.C.E., acted as Chief Engineer for the "Roads and Buildings" section and the Irrigation Branch. He was assisted in the discharge of his duties by Mr. R. M. Patel in his capacity of Superintending Engineer and Irrigation Engineer. During the year under report, the Superintending Engineer inspected the divisional offices at Navsari, Amreli and Kadi.

Organization.

2. At the commencement of the year, the Public Works Department comprised of seven executive divisions, *viz.*, the City, the Garden, the Electrical and the Baroda, Kadi, Navsari and Amreli Divisions. Under orders of Government the City Division was split up into City and Palace Divisions and the latter was maintained as a separate executive division since the 1st of June 1918.

Some important events.

3. One of the features of the year was the experimental measure of amalgamating the Local Boards and the Public Works subordinates in the Baroda and Navsari Districts. As already mentioned in Chapter V, some of the smaller public works, *viz.*, roads, police *thanas*, *jakat nakas*, Abkari *chowkis*, village schools, and repairs to field drainage were handed over to the Local Boards for execution and the necessary funds transferred from the Public Works Department budget to the Local Boards. Funds thus transferred amounted to Rs. 1,16,835 and 1,05,874 for the Baroda and the Navsari Districts respectively, and of these, they spent Rs. 95,501 and Rs. 44,207 respectively. A simple code for the execution of public works by the Panchayats has been under the consideration of Government. Another feature was the engagement of Mr. Egerton Purves, the hydraulic expert, for full two months for inspecting all the important irrigation works, suggesting measures to improve their utility and strength and also for advising Government on the future irrigation policy of the State. The Jaya Mahal Palace in Bombay continued to be in the charge of the British Government for use as Military Hospital for Officers.

Works of the year.

4. The following were some of the important works either completed or in progress during the year :—

(*b*) BUILDINGS.

City Division.

Works completed—

1. The Male Training College.
2. The Nurses' Quarters in the Countess of Dufferin Hospital.
3. The New Hospital.

4. A new block in the Lunatic Asylum.
5. The Ganjakhana Police lines.
6. Additions and alterations for accommodation of Maharaj-Kumar Shivajirao in the Chiman Bag Bunglow.
7. Necessary additions to Bunglow No. 6.
8. Compound wall to the Hostel for women teachers.
9. Repairs to the Zaripatka Chowk in the old Palace.
10. Oil painting, etc., to the Nazarbag Palace.
11. Oil painting, etc., to the Makarpura Palace.

Works in progress—

1. Compound wall and wrought iron railing to the Laxmi Vilas Palace compound on the side facing the Indira Avenue.
2. Entrance gate to the Laxmi Vilas Palace compound.
3. The New Kala-Bhavan Buildings.
4. The new north wing of the public offices.
5. Maharaj-Kumar Jaisinh Rao's mansion.
6. Improving and re-moulding line No. 12 in the 2nd Lancers.
7. The X-ray room in the New Hospital.
8. Additions and alterations in the Victoria Ward in the Countess of Dufferin Hospital.
9. Constructing a female ward in the Lunatic Asylum.

Palace Division.

Works completed—

1. Addition of an open verandah to Her Highness the Maharani Saheb's portion in Laxmi Vilas Palace.

Works in progress—

1. Improvements and repairs to the Aine-Hall in the Laxmi Vilas Palace.
2. Sanitary alterations at the Laxmi Vilas Palace.
3. Additions and alterations at the Laxmi Vilas Palace.
4. Additions and alterations in the Palace at Makarpura.

Electrical Division.

Works completed—

1. Providing electric lights and fans at the Countess of Dufferin Hospital.
2. Providing electric installation at the General Hospital.

Works in progress—

1. General scheme for supplying electricity to the City.
2. Providing electric installation at the Lal Bag Palace.
3. Providing electric lights and fans in the Chiman Bag Bunglow.
4. Erection of the plant at the Steam Laundry.
5. Providing sub-station plant at the Lal Bag Palace.

Baroda Division.

Works completed—

1. Additions to the jail at Petlad.
2. Abkari Depôt with quarters at Dabhoi.
3. A school for 90 boys at Bithali.
4. A school for 90 boys at Manjrol.
5. A school for 120 boys at Kukas.

6. A school for 120 boys at Mindhol.
7. A school for 160 boys at Sadhali.

Works in progress—

1. The Police lines and Fouzdar's quarters at Sojitra.
2. Additions to the Dispensary at Dabhoi.
3. The Abkari Thana at Sandasal.
4. A second class Rest-House at Waghodia.
5. The Munsiff Court at Sankheda.
6. The Anglo-Vernacular School at Sankheda.
7. Additions and alterations to the boarding-house of the Anglo-Vernacular School at Petlad.
8. A school-house for the Reformatory at Baroda.
9. A school for 120 boys at Muval.
10. A school for 120 boys at Anguthana.
11. A school for 130 boys at Koshindra.
12. A school for 150 boys at Varnama.
13. A school for 150 boys at Gada.
14. A school for 150 boys at Bamangaon.
15. A school for 160 boys at Saraswani.
16. A school for 160 boys at Timberva.

Kadi Division.

Works completed—

1. A village school for 60 boys at Tawadia.
2. A village school for 150 boys at Dangarwa.
3. Conversion of a portion of the female ward into an operation room in the Civil Hospital at Kadi.
4. The Munsiff Court at Chanasma.
5. A rest-house with out-houses and wire fencing at Kheralu.

Works in progress—

1. A village school for 60 boys at Chadasan.
2. Do. do. 60 do. at Ubkhal.
3. Do. do. 120 do. at Lavarpur.
4. Do. do. 150 do. at Saldi.
5. Do. do. 150 do. at Thol.
6. Do. do. 150 do. at Jindwa.
7. Do. do. 150 do. at Ambawel.
8. An Anglo-Vernacular School for 120 boys at Kheralu.
9. Do. do 125 do. at Unza.
10. Do. do. 120 do. at Kalol.
11. A village school for boys and girls at Meda-Adraj.
12. The Police divisional offices with connected works at Mehsana.
13. The Police lines at Visnagar.
14. The Sheth Kilachand Devchand Maternity Hospital at Pattan.
15. The Munsiff Court with out-houses at Kalol.
16. The Abkari Depôt with out-houses at Mehsana.
17. Do. do. do. at Dehgam.
18. The Abkari Police Chowky at Malsund.
19. Repairs to the Dispensary at Kalol.

Navsari Division.

Works completed—

1. The Dharamshala at Zankhvav.
2. A forest rest-house at Zankhvav.
3. A forest rest-house at Deotan.

4. A forest rest-house with out-houses at Mota Sutkhadka.
5. Some forest rooms at Sarda.
6. Some forest rooms with a well at Chokhwada.

Works in progress—

1. The Police Thanas at Anawal and Salher.
2. Government office buildings at Mangrol.
3. The Dharamshala, including a storey on one side, at Unai.
4. The Abkari Depôt at Kosamba.
5. Rebuilding the distillery shed including the receiving room at Navsari.

Amreli Division.

Works completed—

1. A school for 100 boys at Arnej.
2. Jakat Nakas at Pedhawada, Dolasa, Arnej and Beyt.
3. The Revenue swars' lines with stables at Khamba.

Works in progress—

1. A forest post-house with three rooms at Dhari.
2. Do. do. do. at Pipalwa.

(c) ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

City Division.

Works in progress—

1. Diversion of the road from the Kothi offices to the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

Baroda Division.

Works completed—

1. Thorough repairs to the portion of one mile of the Baroda-Amliara Road.

Works in progress—

1. A metalled road from Baroda to Chhani.
2. Thorough repairs to the road leading from the Vishwamitri Station to the Baroda-Atladra Road.
3. Special repairs to the Baroda-Atladra Road.
4. Special repairs to the road from the Agas Station upto the British limits.
5. A road from the Saoli Station to the town.
6. Special repairs to the road from Saoli to Samlaya Railway Station including a road to the Vishwamitri River.
7. The Bhadran-Borsad Road.

Kadi Division.

Works in progress—

1. A road from Unja Station to Unava.
2. Thorough repairs to and metalling the road from Chiloda to Dasela (Baroda territory) being a portion of the Sadra-Dabhoda Road.

Navsari Division.

Works in progress—

1. A road from Zankhvav Station to the village of Balethi.
2. A road from Kamrej to Chalthan.
3. Special and thorough repairs to the Vyara-Unai Road.

Amreli Division.

Works completed—

1. The Dhari-Gadiachavand Road.

Works in progress—

1. The Damnagar-Dhamel Road.

(*d*) The Electric Installation.

Maintenance of electric installation.

5. The electric installations at all the palaces and other places together with the telephone exchange were satisfactorily maintained during the year.

Amount of new load added.

6. The general working of the central station was satisfactory both as regards out-put of the plant and financial results. The greater part of the supply was given from the new generating plant but the old one of steam had also to be worked for some part of the day, as on account of the war a duplicate set of the Diesel generator could not yet be procured. Much improvement could not therefore be made in the operating expenses and the department was obliged to restrict further extension of the supply mains and connection of new loads to the system. However, the demand for current continued to increase and despite the difficulties, a new load of 47 K. W. was added during the year.

Financial Results.

7. The financial results showed a gross profit of Rs. 37,870 and carrying a sum of Rs. 6,758 towards depreciation, the net profits could be reckoned at Rs. 31,112 representing an interest of 6·9 per cent. on the capital outlay. The receipts from the sale of current and other sources amounted to Rs. 70,972 against Rs. 45,278 of the previous year.

Progress of important works.

8. Owing to the restrictions on transport, the abnormal advance in prices and the uncertain and late deliveries of machinery and material, the progress of most of the important works undertaken by the department during the year has not been quite satisfactory.

Telephone service.

9. The number of calls through the central and sub-exchanges aggregated to over 1,33,200 during the year, averaging to about 365 calls per day.

(e) THE STATE GARDENS.

Maintenance of Palace Gardens.

10. All the gardens attached to the palaces were maintained satisfactorily. A garden after the Moghul style with a parapet wall was prepared in the Laxmi Vilas Palace. The work of landscape gardening was continued in the Lal Bag Palace compound.

The Public Park.

11. The Public Park, which is the recreation ground of the people, was satisfactorily kept up during the year. The old wooden corridor near the Band Stand was rebuilt. Birds and animals were properly cared for; roads and paths were satisfactorily maintained. Repairs to the circular tank of the Summer House to the Band Stand and the Garden Superintendent's Office, &c., were carried out. Lawns and shrubberies were renovated and kept in good condition.

Arboretum.

12. The Arboretum was maintained with a certain amount of difficulty A high and stout fence was erected to prevent stray cattle from destroying the botanical and other indigenous plants.

Jubilee Garden.

13. The Jubilee Garden in the heart of the City has become a more frequented resort of the people, especially of boys and children, in the evenings and warrants an extension on the north side. The garden was properly maintained. The billiard room and the badminton court were freely availed of by the Baroda City Club.

Jaya Mahal Palace and Garden.

14. The Jaya Mahal Palace continued to be at the disposal of the British Government for use as Hospital for Military Officers. To prevent the ill-effects of the sea breeze on the stone and iron work, window heads were protected by lead sheets. Electric lights and fans were provided in the

officers' quarters. Certain other repairs to the water tank and pump were also carried out and the lawns in the garden were returfed.

Other minor gardens.

15. The other minor gardens at Baroda as well as in the mofussil were also properly maintained. At the Shri Sayaji Sarowar Garden, a road round the bungalow and a trench on the boundary were made to arrest the jungle fire at a distance. New gardens were laid out during the year around the Nurses' quarters, the New High School and the Maharani Girls' High School.

(*f*) IRRIGATION.

Total outlay on Irrigation.

16. The total outlay on irrigation and water works was Rs. 57,48,407 upto the end of the year.

No large irrigation works undertaken.

17. No large irrigation work was undertaken as it has been laid down that the existing works should in the first place be improved and their defects rectified.

Irrigation Projects.

18. The Irrigation Engineer continued to supervise the construction and repairs of irrigation works executed by the divisional Executive Engineers. Under his instructions new projects were prepared for irrigation, drainage and water works, by the project establishment in the four divisions. Almost all possible sites for irrigation reservoirs in the Baroda and Naosari Districts have been exhausted. In the Kadi and Amreli Districts, some work yet remains to be done. Besides the project establishment in the four divisions, special survey parties were organised for the survey of the land commanded by the Sabarmati river and for the Zankhari projects. Both these surveys were completed and the results will be submitted to a hydraulic expert after the details are fully worked out.

Irrigation works completed or in progress.

19. During the year under report, the following irrigation works of importance were either completed or in progress :—

BARODA DISTRICT.

Improvements to the Karchiya Tank and to the Muwal Tank were in progress. As the award of the Arbitrator in the long-disputed case of the Muwal-Bhammarghoda waste-channel necessitated very costly undertakings on the south end of the Muwal Tank and as they endangered the safety of the Railway line and the health of the Saoli town, further negotiations were made with the Shihora Durbar and a settlement has now been arrived at agreeable to both the States. The Dhanora Tank which was recently constructed breached at several places during the monsoon of 1917 and the Manorpura Tank again gave way.

KADI DISTRICT.

Repairs to the Anawada weir on the Saraswati river and the work of filling in the breaches in the dam of the Khokhala Tank were in progress. A trial well in the bed of the Sarasvati river in connection with the water supply project for the Sidhpur town was under construction.

NAVSARI DISTRICT.

A portion of the Tichakiya Dam having been washed off by the heavy floods in August 1917, further work on the Tichakia canals was stopped. Mr. Purves, the expert hydraulic engineer, having been consulted in this matter, has advised the postponement of further expenditure towards the restoration and repair of the breached weir, till the final decision is arrived at in respect of the big Zankhari reservoir higher up. The investigations and survey in connection with the Sabarmati and Zankhari schemes were completed and will be submitted to Mr. Purves next winter.

AMRELI DISTRICT.

The works in connection with the restoration and improvement of the Thebi river bund and canals at Amreli and improvements to the Mota Bhandaria Tank were completed. The remaining work in connection with the Pichhvi Tank was in progress.

Area of land irrigated and revenue derived.

20. Several other major and minor works which were completed during previous years were maintained in good repairs. They provided water for irrigating more than 7,152 bighas of land. The revenue derived was Rs. 30,086 besides certain dues in the shape of Himayat. The expenditure incurred on irrigation works alone was Rs. 1,80,958 during the year.

(g) WATER WORKS.

Baroda City.

21. The control over the management and distribution of water supply to the Baroda City within the Municipal limits remained with the Baroda City Municipality. The Public Works Department retained supervision over the head works at Ajwa and the filter-beds, &c., at Nimetta and the main upto the Municipal limits in the Baroda City.

Maintenance of Ajwa-Nimetta works.

22. The Ajwa and Nimetta works were respectively maintained at a cost of Rs. 4,950 and Rs. 6,709 during the year. On account of the increased consumption of water, the filter-beds at Nimetta were rather overstrained for the last few years. An additional filter bed was sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 56,000 and the work was in progress. Two more important works, namely, the dividing of one of the settling tanks and repairing the cracked portion and strengthening the wall of settling tank No. 1 were also in progress at the close of the year.

23. The work of the second bore at Nimetta was not resumed, as the stronger rods needed for the purpose could not be procured.

Boring at Nimetta.

24. In the Baroda District, the water works at Sinore, Sankheda, Bhadran and Sojitra were looked after and maintained at the expense of the respective municipalities.

Baroda District water works.

25. In the Kadi District, the water works at Pattan were similarly maintained at the cost of the Municipality. At Visnagar a deep bore having been found to yield a somewhat insufficient supply of water, although it was good and potable, a second bore at a short distance was made and the supply from the two bores together was found to be adequate for the town. Further development of the water supply scheme was in hand.

Kadi District water works.

26. In the Navsari District, the water works at Kathore were maintained at the cost of the Municipality. A deep bore for the Umrath water works was in progress. All masonry works, &c., in connection with the Vyara water works were completed but further work had to be stopped on account of the difficulty of obtaining pipes, filtering plant, &c., from Europe.

Navsari District water works.

27. In the Amreli District, the question of water supply for Amreli town was revived and a sum of Rs. 10,000 has been sanctioned for making a deep bore and the work will soon be started. The Dwarka Water Supply Project was still awaiting its turn for deep boring.

Amreli District water works

(*h*) FIELD DRAINAGE.

28. In the Baroda District, the work of constructing a system of field drains in Karjan and Sinore talukas was in progress. In the

Field drains.

Kadi District, protective works and drainage channels near Maharajpura and Sangathala villages were in progress. All the completed drains in the State were satisfactorily maintained during the year under report.

(i) THE FOREST WORKS.

Navsari Forest works.

29. To improve the Rani Mahals in Navsari District and to facilitate the traffic of timber, Government has sanctioned a programme of forest roads and buildings at a cost of Rs. 4,00,000, of which buildings and roads costing Rs. 3,46,157 were completed upto the end of the year, the expenditure during the year being Rs. 59,023.

(j) THE STATE FURNITURE WORKS.

Work done and profits earned by the furniture works.

30. During the year under report, the factory turned out articles worth about Rs. 80,000. The gross profit of about Rs. 20,000 earned by the factory, excluding the expenses incurred on establishment, was utilized towards the payment of interest on the working capital, depreciation and miscellaneous expenditure, leaving a net profit of 15 per cent. to the factory, as against 8¾ per cent. last year.

(k) THE WORKS BRANCH.

Work done by the Works Branch.

31. The Superintendent, Works Branch, carried out the work of sanitary fittings in the palaces and painting and plumbing in all the important buildings in Baroda under the direction of the Chief Architect. Mr. Watson, the Superintendent, Works Branch, was appointed Executive Engineer for the Palace Division which was separated from the City from the 1st of June 1918. Since then, he looks to the Works Branch also in addition to his duties as the Executive Engineer, Palace Division.

(l) GRANT AND OUTLAY.

Budget allotment and expenditure in the divisions.

32. The total budget allotment for the year was Rs. 37,18,091. The following table shows the expenditure actually incurred in the several divisions :—

Divisions.	Expenditure.	
	1916-17.	1917-18.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Baroda City Division	8,80,259	9,67,106
2. Electric Division	1,63,640	1,68,318
3. Palace "	2,57,757	70,839
4. Garden "	3,99,501	3,69,760
5. Baroda "	3,74,745	2,27,918
6. Kadi "	3,77,319	3,54,212
7. Navsari "	5,81,643	3,47,657
8. Amreli "	3,52,572	1,82,650
Total Rs. ..	33,87,436	26,88,460

Two years expenditure compared.

33. The expenditure incurred by the department for the last two years is as under :—

Works.	Expenditure.	
	1916-17	1917-18.
	Rs.	Rs.
1. Original Works	14,68,320	9,74,177
2. Repairs .. .	6,58,180	7,16,950
3. Establishment .	3,30,253	3,24,650
4 Tools and plant	22,933	17,420
5 Refund of Revenue .	...	24,982
6 Military Works, original	1,092	...
7. Petty Military Public Works	8,605	12,610
8. Repairs to Military Works	88,606	...
9. Irrigation Works, Revenue Accounts	30,674	18,379
10. Unclaimed deposits . . .	.	
11. Famine Relief Works		
(a) Previous famine	6	149
(b) Last famine	.	..
(c) Current famine		..
(d) Current famine, 1916-17	18	
(e) Extraordinary famine	46,450	2,422
12. Khangi Contribution works .		...
13. Petty Public Works of Khangi Department .	2,42.577	2,38,439
14 Miscellaneous contribution works such as water works, etc ..	1,26,207	1,77,323
15. Irrigation and other works charged to the capital account . .	3,63,515	1,80,959
Grand Total	33,87,436	26,88,460

B.—Railways.

Personnel, etc

34. The direction of the Railway department continued with Mr. E. Walrond Bryant, M. Inst. C.E.; Mr. P. K. Shinde, B.A., A.M.I.C.E., worked as his Personal Assistant up to 1st May, 1918, when he proceeded on 2 years' leave without pay. There were besides six Assistant Engineers on the various construction divisions.

Total open mileage.

35. The total open mileage of the State owned railways at the end of the year under report was :—

Names of Railways.	Gauge	Miles
1. Petlad Railway . .	5'-6"	21 416
2. Mehsana Railway ..	Metre	162 628
3. Kalol Railway	Do	46·110
4. Khijadiya-Dhari Railway .	Do	37·220
5. Dabhoi Railway ..	2'-6"	154·031
6. Kosamba-Zankvav Railway	2'-6"	26·096
7. Bilimora-Kalamba Railway .	2'-6"	35·038
8. Petlad-Vaso-Pihij Railway .	2'-6"	19·247
Total Miles		501·786

Mileage under construction and open for traffic

36. During the year under report, 93·17 miles were under construction, but no new lines were opened for traffic.

Budget provision and expenditure.

37. The total budget grant sanctioned for railways during the year was Rs. 17,30,000 and the expenditure amounted to Rs. 12,41,053.

Details of lines under construction.

38. The progress of the several lines under construction was as under :—

1. *Narrow Gauge.*

(*i*) Samlaya-Timba Railway, 33·08 miles. All the works were completed and the line was ready to be opened for traffic.

(*ii*) Motipura-Tankhala Railway, 26·29 miles. All the works were in progress up to Kaletia only, as beyond it, in the Naswadi estate, they had to be suspended owing to the unreasonably high demands of the Thakore of Naswadi for compensation for land and export duty of materials These questions were under correspondence and the works had to be suspended in the meanwhile

(*iii*) Choranda-Koral Railway, 11·68 miles. Progress of works on this line was delayed owing to some misunderstanding between the Railway and the P. W Departments regarding the stones from the Dabhoi fort

2. *Metre Gauge*

(*iv*) Dewusna-Becharaji Railway, 22·12 miles. Earthwork, bridges, station buildings and staff quarters on the length within the State limits have been completed and linking was also in progress.

(*v*) Kuranga-Arathra Railway, 37·02 miles. The works were stopped pending receipt of Government of India's decision regarding the extension to Jamnagar.

Projects for which estimates were submitted.

39. Projects for which estimates have been submitted for sanction were :—

(i) Ranu-Dabka Railway, 2′-6″ gauge, 6 miles. Plans and estimates for a roadway to be utilized for a railway in the future have been submitted.

(ii) Vishwamitri to Goyagate Siding, broad gauge, 2·41 miles. The estimates for this siding which is intended to develop an industrial area to the east of Baroda has been ordered to be kept pending return of normal times.

(iii) Vijapur-Ransipur-Taranga Hill extension, metre gauge, 32·07 miles. Project estimates and plans have been submitted, but the proposal was abandoned by His Highness' Government.

(iv) Wagrod-Khareda extension, metre gauge, 12·44 miles. Under orders of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb this extension has been held over until further orders

(v) Songad-Vajpur extension, 2′-6″ gauge, 19·69 miles. Plans and estimates have been submitted. This line has similarly been held over till the others in hand are completed

(vi) Navsari-Palsana Steam Tramway or narrow gauge railway, 12·31 miles. This project has been kept in abeyance until the question of the alignment for a railway between Navsari and Moha, between Moha and Bardoli and Anawal is finally decided.

(vii) Jamwala-Kodinar-Velan Railway, metre gauge, 23 miles. Plans and estimates were considered by His Highness' Government and the project has been held in abeyance until the Velan Bunder scheme is undertaken.

(*viii*) Bilimora Bunder extension, 2′-6″ gauge, 2 miles. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has ordered that this project be submitted for final orders after the war. Plans and estimates have been prepared

Lines surveyed or to be surveyed.

40. Lines surveyed or to be surveyed were :—

(*i*) Harij-Sami-Radhanpur Railway, about 23 miles metre gauge. This has also been kept in abeyance till the final views of the Government of India regarding the alignment of the Viramgam-Sami-Radhanpur section are known.

(*ii*) Maroli-Bardoli Railway *via* Moha, about 19¼ miles, 2′-6″ gauge. Sanction of the Government of India for the survey of this line was still awaited.

(*iii*) Navsari-Moha line, 19 miles, 2′-6″ gauge, was awaiting re-consideration of the Moha-Anawal Branch line.

(*iv*) Moha-Anawal Branch line, 2′-6″ gauge, 17·91 miles, has been kept pending till the proposed railway connection between Moha and Bardoli is put up for consideration.

(*v*) Moha-Bardoli line, 2′-6″ gauge, about 12 miles. This line has been surveyed but project estimates and plans were not submitted to Government.

(*vi*) Petlad-Katana extensions *via* Borsad and Bhadran. Government of India have been addressed for favourable consideration of this project. Three alternative alignments have been ordered by His Highness' Government to be surveyed.

(*vii*) Dasalwada-Ahmedabad connection, metre-gauge, about 30¼ miles. The question of surveying and constructing this line was under correspondence with the Residency.

(*viii*) Navsari-Kamrej Railway. 2′-6″ gauge, about 26 miles The survey of this line was not taken in hand as the project was under consideration.

Other works.

41. Among other works may be mentioned the following :—

(*i*) Under orders of His Highness' Government further action on the proposed scheme of a State Railway Workshop has been deferred.

(*ii*) His Highness' Government has ordered that a survey be made and an estimate prepared for a road from Baroda to Waghodia in connection with the road programme for the Baroda State.

(*iii*) The proposal for a Motor service between Sayan and Kathor has been ordered to be kept back pending the close of the War.

C.—The City Improvement Trust.

Constitution.

42. This was the seventh year of the City of Baroda Improvement Trust and Mr. A. H. Coyle continued as Chairman with the following gentlemen as Trustees of the Board :—

1.	Mr. Maneklal S. Desai,	Government nominees.
2.	Mr. R. R. Kothawala,	
3.	Mr. Maneklal A. Doctor,	Elected by the City Municipality.
4.	Mr. G. B. Paranjpe,	

Since May 1918, Mr. Chhotalal Babarbhai Patel has been appointed a Trustee in the place of Mr. Maneklal Sakarlal Desai, who has retired from service.

43. The budget estimates sanctioned by Government amounted to Rs. 3,44,276, against which, the expenditure incurred was Rs. 1,69,224 as detailed below :—

Expenditure.

		Rs.
1.	Buildings	10,091
2.	Communications	26,890
3.	Irrigation and Drainage	81,949
4.	Miscellaneous Public Improvements ..	17,593
5.	Tools and Plant	1,683
6.	Establishment	30,492
7.	Law Charges	522
8.	Maintenance	4
	Total Rs.	1,69,224

The expenditure fell short of the budget grant on account of the difficulties experienced in purchasing materials, prolonged monsoon, plague in the City and slow progress in land acquisition.

44. In addition to the new works of improvement, the City Improvement Trust maintained the completed portions of the City Drainage works on behalf of the City Municipality and executed some works and acquired certain properties on behalf of the P. W. Department. Drainage connections in private premises were also carried out at the requests of the owners. Expenditure during the year on account of contribution works was as under :—

Contribution works.

		Rs.
1.	City Municipality	30,065
2.	P. W. Department	19,156
3.	Private individuals	468
	Total Rs.	49,689

Works sanctioned during the year

45. The schemes sanctioned by Government during the year under report were as under :—

		Rs.
1.	Laying pipe sewers in the Dudhwala Moholla and Veragi Moholla ..	2,397
2.	Opening a blind lane between Gunda Falia and Rajmahal Road and laying a 6″ pipe-sewer.. .. .	4,377
3.	Extending the Raopura storm-water drain to the north and preparing the area for reclamation to be eventually utilized as building site ..	15,215
4.	Improving the Salatwada Road ..	2,714
5.	Making a road from Ghantiada to Kola Khadi	14,180
6.	Opening a Sahiari Khadki in Kansara lane between Mandvi and Leheripura and laying 6″ and 4″ pipe sewers there..	7,322
7.	Improvements in Mapara's Pole near Gendi Gate	11,919
8.	Acquisition of houses, &c , in Bhatwada, Shiapura and Mama's Pole..	3,127
9.	Opening and improving the insanitary lanes in Kasar Falia	16,948
10.	Laying a 7″ pipe-sewer on the new road between the Chamrajendra Road and the Kevadabag Road.. ..	4,539
11.	Opening a lane between Jogidas Vithal's Pole and Kachhia Pole ..	24,988

		Rs.
12.	Widening the road from Raopura at Kharivav to Jambu Beyt, including bifurcation on west and east, meeting Dandia Bazaar	29,225
13.	Opening Mariam's lane on Raopura Road and joining Tarkeshwar and Kasai Pole	6,424
14.	Improving the sanitation of Dandia Bazaar Road with cross roads ..	13,307
15	Acquiring houses necessary to open out the areas in the south-west square of the city	53,704

Schemes under contemplation

46. The following schemes were under contemplation but not completely developed :—

(1) A traffic road from the Goods Yard to the City *via* the Public Park.

(2) An open air theatre in Kaka Saheb's Paga in Dandia Bazaar.

(3) A road from Murdabari to Gendi Gate.

(4) A garden in Mahomed Wadi.

Works completed during the year.

47. During the year under report the following works were completed :—

(1) Sections V and VI of the traffic road from the Pulbari *Naka* to Machhipith drain ;

(2) Laying pipe-sewers in Kharwa Wad ;

(3) Automatic Pumping Station No. IX ;

(4) Laying pipe sewer in Dudhwalla Moholla between Mandvi and Leheripura Gate ;

(5) Laying pipe sewer in Veragi Moholla.

48. The general programme of improvements in the city that was submitted for sanction of Government was approved of by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb.

General Programme approved.

49. The City Drainage original works could not be pushed on owing to the difficulty in obtaining materials from out-stations and the prolonged monsoon. However, nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of pipe-sewers ranging from 4″ to 18″ were laid with all accessories such as man-holes, flushing stations, inspection chambers, etc. The electric pumps at the Main Pumping Station were worked and the Automatic Pumping Station No. IX near Kevada Bag was started during the year.

Drainage works.

50. The work of constructing a night-soil depôt in Yakudpura was completed during the year and was handed over to the City Municipality.

Night-soil depot.

51. There were 116 old compensation cases pending, which, with the 486 new cases, came to a total of 602 The awards in 87 cases aggregated to Rs 49,266 during the year.

Compensation work.

52. During the year, 6 references were made to the civil courts at the request of the parties dissatisfied with the awards of the City Improvement Trust for properties acquired There were 17 old pending references; thus out of a total of 23, 6 were disposed of by the Court, 5 in favour of the City Improvement Trust and 1 in favour of the plaintiff.

Civil suits

CHAPTER VIII.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

A.—Education.

(*a*) ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION.

Personnel

1 Mr. A. B. Clarke, B A (Cantab.), continued to administer the Education Department as Commissioner of Education (Vidyadhikari), exercising general control over the Museum and the Library department. The Commissioner of Education was assisted by a Chief Inspector and a Naib Vidyadhikari, the former post being held by Mr. S. V. Pendse , B. A., from October 1st, 1917 owing to the transfer of Mr. N. K. Dixit to the post of the Principal, Secondary Teachers' Training College. There were under him 6 Divisional Inspectors, 3 Inspectresses and 37 Deputy Educational Inspectors including special inspectors for the Marathi, Urdu and Antyaja Schools.

Institutions

2. The total number of institutions of all kinds during the year was 3,113 as against 3,199 of the preceding year, showing a decrease of 86. The total number of pupils in all these institutions was 2,28,975 as against 2,42,066 of the last year, showing a decrease of 13,091. The decrease both in the number of institutions as well as in the number of pupils was chiefly due to the exceptional ravages of the plague, which prevailed throughout the whole Raj from September 1917 to the end of April 1918. This caused the closing of almost all the schools for periods varying from two to six months. The fall in the number of pupils was also partly due to the failure

of crops in certain districts which necessitated the affording of relief to the labouring classes by granting exemption to their children from attending schools. Considering the extent of the havoc caused by plague, and the consequent dislocation of school work, it is, on the whole, surprising that the decrease in the number of institutions and of pupils should have been so slight.

Kinds of Educational Institutions.

3. The following table shows the various kinds of institutions and the number of pupils of both sexes learning in them :—

Nature of Institutions.	Number	Number of male pupils.	Number of female pupils.	Total.
ENGLISH EDUCATION.				
1. College	1	586	9	595
2. High Schools for Boys .	14	5,104	1	5,105
3. High School for Girls	1		191	191
4. A. V. Schools .. .	31	4,329		4,329
5. Higher Standard Classes .	10	148		148
6. Prince's School ..	1	4	1	5
7. Special Institution ..	1	29	.	29
Total	59	10,20C	202	10,402
VERNACULAR EDUCATION.				
8. Training Colleges for Men ..	4	503	..	503
9. Training College for Women .	1		108	108
10. Vernacular Schools for Boys	2,572	1,34,161	..	1,34,161
11. Vernacular Schools for Girls	404	..	78,381	78,381
12. Kala-Bhavan	1	372	.	372
13. Other Institutions	72	4,028	1,020	5,048
Total ..	3,054	1,39,064	79,509	2,18,573
Grand Total ..	3,113	1,49,264	79,711	2,28,975

(b) Features of the year.

4. The following among others were the important features of the year :—

Features of the year.

(1) The graduates and the teachers of the Manual Class deputed to study the Sloyd system under the Sloyd Specialist having finished the course of training, 19 Sloyd classes, 7 in Secondary Schools and 12 in Vernacular Schools, were started under these trained men. These classes have replaced the old Manual Training Classes.

Sloyd Classes.

(2) Miss E. F. Woods having severed her connection with the service on the termination of her stipulated period, Miss Bailey was appointed Head Mistress of the Prince's School. Major Webber, who was appointed guardian to Maharaj-Kumar Pratapsinha Raje, exercised general supervision over the studies of the Mahraj-Kumar, the administrative control of the Prince's School remaining with the Commissioner of Education

The Prince's School.

(3) Two committees under the chairmanship of the Commissioner of Education were appointed, one for suggesting measures for the improvement of secondary and collegiate education and for considering and reporting on the possibility of founding a University in Baroda, and another for revising the curriculum of studies in vernacular schools. The Reports of both these Committees were in preparation.

Committees

(4) The Education Department took a prominent part in the "Our Day" celebrations in Baroda and its officers worked with marked success in the collection of funds both in the City and in the mofussil. For this purpose the

"Our Day".

Chief Inspector and one Deputy Educational Inspector Mr. Premanand were placed on special duty.

Domestic Science Classes.

(5) A special course in Domestic Science in the Baroda College and a special class for training the palace servants were started under Mrs. A. G. Strong of America, who has been specially employed for the purpose. A series of lectures in Domestic Science have also been arranged in the Maharani High School and in the Female and Male Training Colleges in Baroda.

Scout Master and Medical Inspector

(6) Appointments of a Scout Master for organising the Scout movement and of a Medical Inspector for schools have been sanctioned.

Training Classes

(7) With the object of increasing the output of trained teachers locally in the four districts, two new First Year Training classes were started in Navsari and Amreli.

Opening of the N K High School, Petlad

(8) Mr. Clarke, the Commissioner of Education, formally opened the *Naranbhai Keshavlal* High School at Petlad in the presence of a large gathering of officers and distinguished citizens. The High School has been named after the donor, the late Naranbhai Keshavlal Sheth of Petlad, out of whose charities a sum of Rs. 18,000 was donated towards converting it into a Government institution.

(c) English Education.

Number and Strength of English Teaching Institutions.

5. During the year under report there were 58 institutions (besides the Prince's School), where English was taught as against 63 of the preceding year, the decrease of five being due to the conversion of the aided Matriculation

classes at Petlad and Sojitra into Government institutions and their consequent amalgamation with previously existing A.-V. Schools, and to the abolition of two aided classes at Ladol and Dehgam and the closing of the special Sloyd class. The number of pupils on the roll in these institutions is shown in the following table :—

Number of Institutions		Institutions.	Number of Students.	
1916-17	1917-18		1916-17.	1917-18.
		GOVERNMENT		
1	1	Baroda College .	575	595
6	8	High Schools for boys	2,743	3,297
1	1	High School for girls	137	191
24	22	A. V. Schools ..	4,184	3,226
1	1	S T T. College	26	29
1		Sloyd Class ..	19	..
		AIDED		
5	5	High Schools .. .	1,378	1,576
6	6	A. V Schools	875	842
12	10	Standards V, VI and VII Classes	258	148
		UNAIDED.		
1	1	High School .	326	232
4	3	A. V. Schools	282	261
1		V Standard Class .	12	..
63	58	Total .	10,815	10,397

Total number of pupils in English Schools.

6. To these 10,397 (+5 of the Prince's School), may be added 666 pupils learning English in 16 Primary Schools and 125 Antyaja pupils learning English in the two Antyaja

Schools at Baroda and Pattan. The total number of pupils learning English therefore comes to 11,193 (10,991 boys and 202 girls) against 11,474 (11,318 boys and 156 girls) of the preceding year.

The Baroda College

7. The Baroda College, founded in the year 1882 and recognised by the Bombay University for the full courses in Arts and Science in 1890, continued under the control of Principal A. M. Masani, M.A., B.Sc. It achieved, as usual, satisfactory results at the various University Examinations. The Principal was assisted by a staff consisting of sixteen professors, three lecturers in French, Sanskrit and Logic, and a Shastri, a Munshi, two Fellows and other subordinate staff.

The College suffered a serious loss in the sad and untimely death of Prof. N. A. Masani, M A., B.Sc., a distinguished and able member of the staff. The vacancy thus caused by the death of Prof. N. A. Masani was filled by the appointment of Mr. K. G. Naik, formerly Professor at the University College of Science, Calcutta.

Number of students and hostels

8 The College had on its rolls 595 students including 9 lady students, as against 575 including 13 ladies in the preceding year. There are three Government hostel buildings attached to the College and one rented in the neighbourhood, accommodating in all about 210 students. The Resident Professor occupies a Government bungalow adjoining the hostels

Library.

9. The College possesses a fine library containing over 10,000 volumes. The number of books issued to the staff and the students was about 7,000. The Central Library was also taken advantage of by a large number of students.

10. The total expenditure on account of the College amounted to Rs. 1,22,970 as against Rs. 1,34,982 in the preceding year, and the receipts from fees, &c., amounted to Rs. 29,044 as against Rs. 33,717 last year. The net cost per pupil came to Rs. 157 as against Rs. 176 per pupil last year.

Expenditure and income.

11. The following table shows the results at the various University examinations :—

University Examination Results.

Examinations.	Number of students sent up	Number of students passed.	Remarks.
M. A.	1	..	
B. A. (Hon.)	44	32	1 in First Class. 20 in Second Class.
„ Pass	59	29	
Intermediate Arts	114	50	8 in Second Class.
B. Sc. (New)	2	1	
Intermediate (Science) ...	7	5	
Pre.-Science	5	2	
First Year's Course	188	119	
Total ..	420	238	

12. The Seminar for the Comparative Study of Religions, founded by His Highness in 1915, continued and extended its useful activities under Professor Widgery. The "Indian Philosophical Review" started by Prof. Widgery with the joint-editorship of Prof. Ranade of Poona has acquired considerable importance in literary circles and has made the Seminar and its activities more widely known and popular in India. A further and more valuable result of the activities

The Seminar.

of the Seminar in research work is the founding of the Series called "The Gaekwad Studies in Religion and Philosophy", which has been sanctioned by His Highness for the publication of works undertaken by the Seminar and even of outside scholars. The religions at present represented at the Seminar are Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Christianity.

Observatory.

13. The College Observatory continued as usual to take meteorological readings twice every day.

Extension to the College building

14. The question of extension to the college building was under consideration. Necessary fittings and equipments to the laboratories have been supplied

High Schools

15. During the year under report, two new full-fledged High Schools were added to the seven already existing by converting the aided Matriculation classes at Petlad and Sojitra into Government institutions, thus bringing the number of Government High Schools to nine, of these one, the Maharani High School at Baroda, is exclusively for girls and the rest for boys in the different parts of the State. Besides these, there were five aided High Schools, two at Baroda and one each at Dharmaj, Navsari, and Gandevi, and one aided Matriculation Class at Sidhpur. There is one unaided High School at Navsari, called the Gulabdas Bhaidas Institute, conducted at his own expense by Mr. Gulabdas Bhaidas of Surat.

Results of Matric. and S F Examinations

16. The following table shows how these High Schools fared at the University Matriculation and School Final examinations:—

No.	Names of Institutions.	Matriculation.				School Final.			
		Sent-up		Passed		Sent-up.		Passed.	
		Students	*Ex*-Students	Students	*Ex*-Students	Students.	*Ex*-Students.	Students	*Ex*-Students.
	Government.								
1	Baroda High School . .	106	2	63				.	..
2	Maharani High School for Girls, Baroda	6		3			.		.
3	T. B High School, Bhadran	20	2				.		..
4	Pattan High School . .	43	5	9	1			.	.
5	G D High School, Visnagar .	24	2	14	1	.		..	..
6	M. & R Tata High School, Bilimora	11	1	8	.	.		.	.
7	Amreli High School . .	25	2	14	.	.			.
8	N K High School, Petlad	64	7	30	1	..	1		.
9	M M High School, Sojitra	22	3	10			.		..
	Aided								
10	Shree Sayaji High School, Baroda ..	40	10	9	1			.	..
11	Maharani Chimnabai High School, Baroda	21	2	13	2			.	.
12	Dharmaj High School ..	9	1	3		.		.	.
13	Sir C. J N. Z. Madressa, Navsari .	52		36	.	12		4	.
14	Sir C J R High School, Gandevi .	12		5	.			.	.
15	Sidhpur Matriculation Class	25		8		..	..		.
	Unaided.								
16	G. B. Institute, Navsari	55	.	9	..	28	.	5	..

High School hostels.

17. Most of the Government High Schools have hostels attached to them offering adequate accommodation to students studying in them. The Dabu Quarters and the Gulabdas Hostel, both

at Navsari, accommodated fifty and seventy-four students respectively.

A. V. Schools and hostels.

18. The number of Anglo-Vernacular Schools, both Government and Aided, was 28 during the year against 30 of the last year, the decrease of two being due to the raising of the two Anglo-Vernacular Schools at Petlad and Sojitra to the status of High Schools by the conversion of the local aided Matriculation Classes into Government institutions and their consequent amalgamation with the former. In addition to these, there were 9 aided Fifth and Sixth Standard classes attached to the local Government Anglo-Vernacular Schools, and 3 unaided Anglo-Vernacular Schools. The Anglo-Vernacular Schools at Padra, Dabhoi, Karjan, Mehsana, Kadi, Vijapur, Kathor, Sinor and Maroli are provided with hostels on Grant-in-Aid principles. Plans and estimates were under preparation for erecting a building for the hostel at Pattan, for which Mr. Ujamsinh has donated Rs. 15,000.

Science Inspector

19. The appointment of the science instructor, now designated as Science Inspector, was further extended for a period of 3 years from 1st July 1918.

The Prince's School

20. The Prince's School, a special institution for the grand-children of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb and certain select companions, continued under Miss Woods as Head Mistress till the end of May 1918, when Miss Bailey succeeded her. The school showed satisfactory progress.

Scholarships in the College and Secondary schools

21. The aggregate annual value of the State scholarships tenable in the Baroda College and the Secondary schools of the State was Rs. 7,844 against Rs. 6,984 in the preceding year. These include scholarships of the value of Rs. 90 per month awarded to students studying at the Fergusson College, Poona, and the Sydenham College of Commerce, Bombay. Out of the annual

grant of Rs. 7,000 for *Khangi* Scholarships founded by His Highness, Rs. 6,372 were spent in awarding scholarships to 19 boys and 6 girls. In addition to these, scholarships were awarded to Maratha students studying in, and outside, the State from the Maratha Education Fund of Rs. 1,50,000 founded by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb.

Expenditure and receipts.

22. The total expenditure and receipts under the head of English education for the last three years are shown in the following table :—

ITEM.	1915-16	1916-17	1917-18.
	Rs.	Rs	Rs.
Expenditure	3,48,715	3,82,434	3,88,585
Income	91,723	96,308	88,887

(*d*) VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

Number and strength of Primary schools.

23. At the end of the year under report, there were 2,983 Government, 23 aided, and 30 unaided Primary Schools and one Orphanage, making a total of 3,037 institutions against 3,118 of the last year There were, besides these, 5 Training Colleges (four for men and one for women), 3 Technical Institutions, 1 Reformatory, 5 Music Schools and 2 Antyaja Boarding Schools and 1 Vernacular School Final Class for training men for the subordinate clerical staff. The following table shows the number of institutions and the number of pupils of both sexes attending them :—

Year.	Boys' Schools.		Girls' Schools		Other Institutions.		Total.	
	No of Schools.	No. of Boys.	No. of Schools.	No. of Girls	No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils.	No. of Schools.	No. of Pupils.
1916-17	2,656	1,40,405	403	84,605	76	6,238	3,135	2,31,248
1917-18	2,572	1,34,161	404	78,381	78	6,031	3,054	2,18,573

24. The year under report showed a decrease of 81 in the number of Vernacular institutions and of 12,675 in the number of pupils, which was due, as has already been observed, to the ravages of plague and to the economic distress caused by the failure of crops in certain districts and by the War. Considering the severity of the distress, the decrease is slight. The successful efforts of the Department for the last two years in removing stagnation of pupils in the lower standards, the increased output of trained teachers, and the more effective methods of inspection introduced since last year have effected marked improvement in the quality and efficiency of Primary instruction.

Causes of decrease

25 The recovery of fines under the Compulsory Education Act, levied on recalcitrants for failure to send their children to schools and for failure to attend, amounted during the year to Rs. 83,239. Fines amounting to Rs 10,762 were remitted.

Compulsory fines

26. The total expenditure on all the Primary schools amounted to Rs 11,51 190 as against Rs 10,89,514 in the preceding year, which gives an average of Rs. 479 per school against Rs 442 of the last year, the increase in expenditure being mainly due to the grant of the scarcity allowances to the lower grade servants

Expenditure on Primary Schools

27 There were four Training institutions for the Primary Teachers. Of these, two were the First Year Training Classes at Navsari and Amreli newly started to give greater facilities to, and to encourage, local men to undergo training; the third was the Training College at Patan reduced during the year under report to a First Year Training Class; and the fourth, the Training College for Men at Baroda developed,

Training Institutions for men

out of the Training Class founded in 1885, to its present full-fledged status in 1905. Thus during the year there were three First Year Training classes with a sanctioned strength of 280 stipendiary scholars and one full-fledged Training College with 20 stipendiary and 20 non-stipendiary scholars in the third year, 80 stipendiary and 40 non-stipendiary scholars in the second year, and 160 stipendiary scholars in the first year classes. The actual number of scholars who availed themselves of these facilities was 504 during the year

Practising Schools

28 The Baroda Training College has two practising schools and the Training Classes at Patan, Navsari and Amreli one practising school each attached to them to give the scholars training in the science and art of teaching. All the practising schools have been staffed with experienced third year trained teachers.

Accommodation for Training Classes

29 In Baroda, the Training College continued to assemble in the commodious Kareli Bag building adequately equipped for the purpose. At Patan, Navsari and Amreli, the classes had to be accommodated in suitable hired buildings.

Training College Examinations

30 In the Baroda Training College, 248 students appeared for the first year, 233 for the second and 48 for the third year examinations, of whom 152, 189, and 42 passed respectively At Patan, 139 appeared for the first year and 103 for the second year examinations, of whom 87 and 89 respectively passed.

Hostels attached to Training Colleges

31. All the training institutions have hostels attached to them for which suitable buildings have been rented.

Training College Union

32. The scholars in the Baroda Training College have a Union and among its activities may be mentioned its Reading Room, Debating Society and Social Service League.

33. The total expenditure on all the Training Institutions for Primary male teachers amounted to Rs. 80,997, giving an average of Rs. 161 per pupil against Rs. 181 in the preceding year.

Expenditure on Training Colleges for men.

(e) FEMALE EDUCATION.

34. The total number of girls' schools was 416 as against 414 and the number of girls learning in them 36,557 against 39,098 of the preceding year. In addition to these, there were 42,952 girls studying in mixed schools, which, added to those learning in exclusive girls' schools, brings the total number of girls receiving Primary instruction to 79,509 as against 85,656, showing a decrease of 6,147 which was due to the causes already explained.

Girls' Schools

35. In addition to the one Zenana class in Baroda, there was one unaided Zenana class at Petlad. Both these classes had 87 women altogether against 64 of the last year, receiving lower as well as higher primary instruction

Zenana Classes

36. In addition to the ordinary subjects of the curriculum, provision has been made in the principal town girls' schools for the teaching of some subjects of domestic science such as, needle-work, embroidery, drawing, music and cookery Simple needle-work is taught also in large village girls' schools It has been ruled that the provision for the teaching of needle-work and embroidery may be made on grant-in-aid principle and it is gratifying to note that in a few places people have taken advantage of it.

Subjects of Domestic Science taught in Girls' Schools.

37. The Training College for women teachers, founded in 1882 in Baroda, continued under the management of its Superintendent, Miss Reuben, whose services have been borrowed from the Education Department of

Training College for Women.

the Bombay Presidency. The Lady Superintendent was assisted by a Head Mistress and a staff (mostly of females) consisting of two graduates, 2 under-graduates and four trained teachers and four special teachers for drawing, embroidery needle-work, etc. Mrs. Pagar, a State scholar specially trained in America at State expense in Kindergarten, was, on her return, added to the staff.

Number of women teachers.

38. The number of women under training, when the year closed, was 108 against 122 in the preceding year. The sanctioned strength of stipendiary women scholars is 150. All possible inducements of pay and prospects are held out to women to join the Training College. There has been a slow but steady rise in the number of women attracted towards the teaching profession. It will, however, take some years yet before the sanctioned number is attained. The total number of women teachers rose from 227 to 279 during the year under report showing an increase of 52 against 7 of the preceding year, which is gratifying.

Hostels attached to the Women's College

39 There is a specially erected commodious and adequately equipped hostel building attached to this Training College During the year it had 44 boarders. As a suitable woman could not be secured for the separate post of the superintendent the Head Mistress was asked to do the work.

Amreli Training Class for Women.

40. The Training Class for Women, specially started at Amreli to train local women teachers of that distant district, continued as before to train women upto the second year course It had during the year 8 women in the first year and 4 in the second year course.

Results of Examinations.

41. Out of the 110 women teachers that appeared at the different examinations, 68 passed, the result being 61·8 per cent. against 60·5 in the preceding year. The Training College

having been closed owing to the prevalence of plague in the City for over five months, no women teachers could possibly prepare and appear either for the Sir J. J School of Arts examinations or for the local Ambulance and Hygiene examinations.

Expenditure

42. The total expenditure on both the training institutions for women teachers including stipends amounted to Rs. 16.739 as against Rs. 17.925 in the preceding year, giving an average of Rs. 139 per scholar.

(*f*) EDUCATION OF BACKWARD CLASSES.

Antyaja Schools.

43. For the education of the children of the *Antyajas* or depressed classes, whose population in the last Census numbered 1,74 289, there were 260 *Antyaja* schools of which 5 were exclusively for girls and the remaining 255 mixed The total number of *Antyaja* children in these schools was 10.451 (10,143 boys and 308 girls) There were also 6 309 *Antyaja* children learning in ordinary Gujarati Primary schools, which brings the total number of such children receiving primary instruction to 16 760 which is equal to about 9 per cent. of their population There were 56 boys and 3 girls receiving secondary education in *Antyaja* school No. 1. Baroda, 4 boys studying in the higher standards in the Baroda High School and 1 boy in the Kala-Bhavan Government gives books and other school requisites free to these children. Scholarships of the aggregate value of Rs 122 per mensem were awarded to *Antyaja* children in the primary schools and 4 of Rs 5 each per month in the Baroda High School. In the Training College at Baroda 11 *Antyaja* scholars were reading for the different courses along with other Hindu scholars. The *Antyaja* Boarding Houses at Baroda and Patan had 45 (35 boys and 10 girls) and 27 boarders respectively, whom free boarding, lodging and necessary clothing were provided by Government.

44. The Garoda Pathshala, founded in 1913 for teaching especially Sanskrit, along with other subjects of the curriculum, to the sons of the *Garodas* or priests of the *Antyajas* with a view to initiate them in the proper performance of the ritual, had 14 students, 10 in the first year and 4 in the second year course. They are given stipends of Rs. 8 per month each in the first and Rs. 9 per month in the second year.

he Garoda Pathshala

45. The total expenditure on the education of the children of the depressed classes amounted to Rs. 60,119

Expenditure on Antyaja Education

46. The three Dhanka Boarding Schools for boys at Songadh, Vyara and Mahuwa and the Girls' Boarding School at Songadh, established for the education of the children of the forest tribes, showed satisfactory progress during the year All the three boys' schools had the sanctioned maximum number of 100 boys each on their rolls and the girls' school too had the maximum number of 50 girls. The Songadh and Vyara Boarding schools, in addition to the curriculum of higher vernacular standards, imparted instruction in the elements of agriculture and practical training on the farms attached to them, and also practical instruction in carpentry with a view to enable the students to make and to repair ordinary agricultural tools and implements At the annual examination in carpentry, 38 and 62 appeared and 28 and 39 passed respectively at Songadh and Vyara. At the examination in the theory and practice of agriculture , 58 and 63 appeared at both these places of whom 50 and 56 respectively passed. Some of the boys, on the successful completion of the courses of these schools, joined the local English Schools, some boys and a few girls have joined the Training Colleges for men and women at Baroda, and the rest have been utilising their education in following their hereditary agricultural profession methodically and with greater intelligent interest. One of the most

Education of forest tribes

significant achievements of these schools has been that some of the localities of these aborigines have been supplied with teachers of their own communities. On the whole, the institution of these schools has been vastly instrumental in ameliorating the condition of these aborigines.

Expenditure on Dhanka Boarding Schools.

47. The total expenditure on the four Dhanka boarding schools amounted to Rs. 15,498 against Rs. 15,400 in the preceding year. The receipts from the sale of the farm produce and other sundries amounted to Rs 911 against Rs. 870 of last year. The net average cost of educating each Dhanka Boarder came to Rs. 44.

Urdu Schools.

48. The total Mahomedan population numbering, according to the last Census, 1,60,112, of whom the number of those who actually spoke Urdu in their homes was 64,806, was provided with 102 Urdu schools for boys and 33 for girls, with 7,462 boys and 2,421 girls respectively learning in them. There were, besides, 8,421 Mahomedan children attending Gujarati schools, which, when added to those learning in Urdu schools, brings the total number of Mahomedan children receiving primary education to 18,304 giving a percentage of 11·4. The total expenditure on the education of Mahomedan children attending exclusive Urdu schools amounted to Rs. 69,741.

(*g*) Special Insititutions.

The Orphanage at Amreli

49. The Orphanage at Amreli had 52 orphan boys. It also accommodated 5 juvenile offenders. In addition to primary education, which they receive in the local vernacular schools, the orphans are given training in arts and crafts such as weaving, carpentry, dyeing, printing and tailoring according to their aptitude to enable them to earn a living when they go out into the world after coming of age.

50. There were five music schools as before, one each at Baroda, Patan, Navsari, Mehsana and Amreli. They had altogether 887 students learning music in the six different standards, of whom 476 appeared and 422 passed at the annual examinations. The teaching of music was also provided as a regular subject of the curriculum in the Training Colleges for men and women teachers and i the girls' schools at Baroda, Navsari, Patan, Mehsana and Amreli.

Music Schools.

51. There were during the year 3 Government, 1 aided and 6 unaided Sanskrit schools in the State. There were in them altogether 356 students, of whom 185 appeared and 150 passed at the various examinations. The *Shravan Mas Dakshina* examinations, for which a sum of Rs. 5,000 is annually set apart, afford additional encouragement to Sanskrit learning of the old traditional type. During the year under report 214 appeared for the various grade and subject examinations, of whom 176 were declared to have passed. They were given *Dakshina* or cash prizes of the total value of Rs. 3,499. The total expenditure on account of this organization came to Rs. 4 879.

Sanskrit Schools.

52 The Deaf-Mute schools at Baroda and Mehsana had 19 boys and 8 girls, and 21 boys and 2 girls respectively. Both these schools have been placed under teachers specially trained in the work. The schools also provide instruction in carpentry, drawing and tailoring. Hostels to accommodate outside scholars have been recently attached to these schools. The starting of schools for the Blind is under contemplation, and four men have been selected and sent to Calcutta and Mysore to receive training in that art.

Deaf-Mute Schools

53. There were 6 Kindergarten classes in which there were 855 infants of ages varying from 4 to 6 years, as against 795 in the last year. The schools showed satisfactory progress.

Kindergarten Classes.

The increased demand for opening more of such schools in other places is an indication of their popularity.

Aided Primary Schools

54. The number of aided primary schools decreased from 21 to 19 and that of higher primary classes increased from 3 to 4 during the year under report. The annual grant to these schools amounted to Rs. 1,747.

Military Schools

55. There were 7 Military schools at Baroda, 1 at Dwarka and 1 at Dhari having altogether 241 pupils in them.

The Jail School

56. The Jail School attached to the Baroda Central Jail had 13 young convicts studying in it.

Physical culture

57. During the year under report 46 vernacular schools and most of the important secondary schools had provision for instruction in Indian gymnastics and drill Boys in these schools have been taking increased interest in the subject. Most of the schools have been supplied with the necessary gymnastic apparatus, and the Gymnasium Inspector supervised and inspected the work The importing of an expert physical instructor is under consideration

Moral and religious instruction

58. Moral instruction continued to be imparted to pupils in secondary schools with the help of Gould's books on the subject. Prof. Dhruva's 'Nitishikshana' specially prepared by orders of Government was used in primary schools in teaching the elements of morality and the general principles of religion.

(*h*) INSPECTION.

Improvement in Inspection

59. Since last year the Department has been concentrating its efforts on a more effective inspection of vernacular schools—especially the village schools - with a view to removing the stagnation of pupils in the lower

standards and improving the general tone and the quality and efficiency of instruction The subordinate members of the inspecting staff having been relieved of the unnecessarily elaborate administrative work, which has now been centralised in the Divisional Inspectors' offices, and the Divisional Inspectors having been given a Personal Assistant each to look to the routine office work all the members of the inspecting staff have been enabled to devote greater attention to the practical and essential side of inspection such as supervising, guiding and instructing the teachers in their actual class work and giving model lessons.

Inspection tours of the Head of the Department

60. The Commissioner of Education toured in the Baroda and Navsari Prants and visited and inspected a number of town and village schools. He kept with him the Divisional Inspector and the Deputy Inspector concerned directing them in the methods of inspection. With a view to assist the Head of the Department in the work of inspection and general administration, the Office of the Chief Inspector was created. The Chief Inspector toured in the different districts, inspected a large number of schools and made a number of suggestions. His work in this direction was valuable

Divisional and Special Inspectors

61. The six Divisional Inspectors and Deputy Inspectors moved each for 220 days during the year in their respective Divisions and Talukas assigned to them. The girls' schools were examined and inspected by the Inspectresses. The Marathi, Urdu and Antayaja Schools, in addition to being visited by the respective Divisional Inspectors and Deputies, were examined and inspected by the Marathi Inspector, the Urdu Inspector assisted by the Urdu Deputy Inspector and by the Anatyaja Inspector assisted by four Anatyaja Sub-Deputies respectively. All the members of the inspecting staff worked with a growing realisation of the need for intelligent co-operation and "Team-work," which has already had promising results.

(i) Technical Education.

62. The central technical institution called the "Kala Bhavan," founded in 1890 with the object of popularising and promoting poly-technical education among the masses, continued under the control of Principal C. H. Vora. The institution provides courses in theory and practice in six different subjects, *viz*, art, civil and mechanical engineering, chemical technology, textile manufacture, and elementary commercial training. The art section gives instruction in portrait-painting, clay-modelling, wood-carving and photo-mechanical process The following table shows the number of students studying in each section:—

The Kala Bhavan.

Name of Subject.	Number of Boys in	
	1916-17.	1917-18.
1. Art (Fine and Industrial) ..	87	64
2. Civil Engineering	89	91
3. Mechanical Engineering	115	112
4 Chemical Technology (Dyeing, Bleaching and Calico Printing) . .	40	33
5. Textile Manufacturing	57	43
6. Commerce	45	29
Total ..	433	372

63. Out of the total number of 372 students on the roll, 67 were Baroda subjects; of whom 41 belonged to Baroda City and 26 to other parts of the State. Out of the remaining 305 students who came from outside the State, 205 hailed from the Bombay Presidency, 22 from Central India, 21 from the Central Provinces, 22 from the Punjab, Bengal and the United Provinces and 35 from Southern India.

Analysis of students

64. At the annual examinations, 154 appeared from all the sections of whom 69 passed. For the Final Diploma examinations, 65 appeared, of whom 46 were awarded the diplomas. At the Sir J. J. School of Art examinations, 3 appeared for the Elementary and 13 for the Intermediate and 4 for the Draftsman's course, of whom 2, 6 and 2, respectively passed. In the examination held in Bombay under the Boiler Inspection Act, 5 were declared qualified for the third, 4 for the second, and 1 for the first class. Owing to the prevalence of plague, a large number of students could not finish the courses, and consequently only a small number was able to appear at the various examinations.

Results of Examinations

65. Scholarships of the aggregate value of Rs. 100 per month were awarded in the Kala Bhavan. The institution had also four Pilajirao Gaekwad scholarships of Rs. 10 each per month, one allotted to each Prant, specially endowed by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb and eight scholarships of Rs. 7 each endowed by the four District Boards, two allotted to each Prant.

Technical Scholarships

66. The Nazar Paga Workshops, attached to the Kala Bhavan, continued to work under the management of the Superintendent, Mr. Vevai. In addition to affording practical training to the students of the Kala Bhavan in the use of engines and machinery and in smithy, carpentry and joinery, the Workshops manufactured on a business scale articles of furniture, metal and cast iron required for the different departments of the State of the aggregate value of Rs. 43,919 as against Rs. 58,257 in the preceding year. The work turned out was of a highly superior quality and finish. The scheme for the reorganisation of the Kala Bhavan has been postponed until the conclusion of peace.

The Workshops

67. Out of the two Government Industrial schools, the one at Dabhoi was closed as it did not show adequate progress. The Amreli Industrial school was continued under its new Superintendent, Mr. Sant. The school was completely reorganised and a special primary school for the children of the artisan classes was attached to it with a view to give them both technical as well as primary instruction simultaneously in one and the same school. The experiment has proved eminently successful. The number of pupils rose from 96 of the last year to 160. The school imparted instruction in the full primary course and at the same time trained 21 pupils in dyeing and ordinary calico-printing, 28 in weaving and 41 in carpentry and drawing. The school is supervised and examined by the Principal and the staff of the Kala-Bhavan. A scheme for starting similar industrial schools in other parts of the State was under consideration. The Tata Industrial School of Navsari, aided by Government with an annual grant of Rs. 3,400, continued to show steady progress. The school enrolled 55 students out of whom it presented 13 students at the Elementary and 3 at the Intermediate Drawing examinations of the Sir J. J. School of Art, of whom 7 and 3, respectively, were declared successful. At the Boiler Act Certificate examination, 1 secured the third class and 1 the second class certificate.

Industrial Schools.

68. The Baroda Reformatory, opened in 1913 under the Children's Court Act, continued under the supervision of the Principal of the Kala Bhavan and had during the year under report 25 juvenile offenders against 27 in the preceding year. The staff was strengthened and other improvements made at the suggestion of the Educational Commissioner. The school teaches the primary course and carpentry and practical agriculture.

The Reformatory

Expenditure on Technical Instruction

69. The expenditure on the Kala Bhavan and the income from fees and the workshop profits amounted to Rs. 60,800 and Rs. 10,700 respectively. The expenditure on the Amreli Industrial school and on the Reformatory amounted respectively to Rs. 5,947 and 3,083. Thus the total cost on technical education, including the annual grant of Rs. 3,400 to the Tata Industrial School, amounted to Rs. 73,230 as against Rs. 74,116 in the previous year. The average annual cost of educating one pupil at the three institutions came to Rs. 181, Rs. 37 and Rs. 123, respectively, against Rs. 158, Rs. 45 and Rs. 133, respectively, in the preceding year.

B.—The Museum.

Management

70. The Baroda Museum continued under the management of Dr. M. K. Kanga, M.A., B.Sc., L.M. & S., as its Director and Mr. S. F. Rahmin worked as the Curator of the Picture Gallery attached to the Museum for some months. The Picture Gallery has been placed under the Director of the Museum, pending the appointment of a suitably qualified officer. A proposal to appoint one officer to control and manage both these institutions was under consideration.

Use of the Museum by Students.

71. Students of the local colleges and schools in large numbers and some mofussil students visited the Museum and availed themselves of the collections of arts and sciences. The Museum continued to lend its scientific and astronomical apparatus as required by the colleges and the Kala Bhavan.

Visitors.

72. Visitors to the Museum, other than students, numbered 2,17,175, giving a daily average of 595.

73. During the year, His Highness the Maharaja Saheb presented nine electro-type placquets bearing portraits of the past Rulers of the State. A specimen of Bidri workmanship and two old brass figures of Hindu gods were acquired. The Government of Madras presented 10 old gold coins; 1,286 copper coins from Kodinar, 25 copper coins of the Mahomedan Kings of Gujarat, 23 rupee coins of the Mughal period from Kadi and some coins of the Tughlak dynasty were acquired. A large number of lantern slides and a complete set of electro-plate process apparatus were purchased.

New Acquisitions.

74. The art and textile collections in the Museum were re-arranged on a more scientific and artistic plan.

Re-arrangement

75. The total expenditure on the Museum and the Picture Gallery amounted to Rs. 11,237 as against Rs. 19,754 in the preceding year.

Expenditure

76. A large collection of pictures including both European and Indian master-pieces and reproductions of old famous works of the aggregate value of Rs. 1,66,285 was purchased for the Picture Gallery. The pictures purchased in Europe have had to be kept in London until the conclusion of peace.

Purchase of a large collection of pictures.

C.—The Libraries.

77. The Library Department, started as a branch of the Education Department in 1910-11 by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb with the object of disseminating knowledge among the masses and as an effective supplement to the scheme of free and compulsory education, continued to be controlled by Mr. J. S. Kudalkar, M.A., LL.B., as Curator. Mr. Newton M. Dutt continued to work as State Librarian in charge of the Central Library at Baroda.

Management.

78. The Central Library during the year under report had 71,077 volumes consisting of 64,221 printed books and 6,856 Sanskrit manuscripts. The total circulation of books rose to 54,624 from 52,768 and the number of readers holding membership-cards to 5,122 from 3,000 of the last year. The Library subscribed for 222 newspapers and periodicals. The Reading Room recorded an average of 400 readers per day.

The Central Library.

79. The *Mahila* (Ladies') Library located in the Narsingji's Pole had 1,471 books, mostly Gujarati, and circulated 2,309 books among 230 readers. Its reading room subscribed for 18 vernacular papers and periodicals which were read by 1,833 readers. The Central Library and the Mahila Library together circulated 6,994 books among the ladies of the Baroda City during the year. The Children's Room was attended by 14,000 children. The Story Telling Branch met 10 times and the Cinema gave 30 shows, the total attendance at both being 2,000

Ladies' and Children's Branches.

80. During the year under report, the number of district, town and rural libraries rose to 536 from 496 of the last year, which consisted of 3 district, 39 town and 494 village libraries. These libraries possessed a stock of altogether 2,43,842 books and circulated 2,16,069 books, as against 2,38,717 and 2,10,369 respectively in the preceding year. Out of the 42 town libraries, 37 have upto now been provided with buildings and for the remaining 5, buildings were under construction, over which a sum of Rs. 77,409 has altogether been expended. The Travelling Libraries section sent out 178 cases and circulated 15,275 books in the different villages all over the State.

District and Travelling Libraries.

81. The Visual Instruction Branch continued its useful activities and held 167 cinema and lantern shows in the different parts of the four Prants, at which altogether 1,52,318

Visual Instruction.

persons attended against 93,790 in the preceding year. The branch also sent out 318 sets of stereographs with 14,391 pictures to different places in the Raj.

Gaekwad's Oriental Series.

82. Two more books were published in the "Gaekwad's Oriental Series" bringing the total number to seven.

Important events.

83. During the year under report the Library Department sent out exhibits to the Industrial Exhibition held at Gwalior and secured two gold medals. Mr Newton Dutt was deputed by the State to represent the Baroda State Library Department at the Congress of Librarians held at Lahore in January 1918 at the request of the Government of India.

Expenditure.

84. The total expenditure during the year on this branch amounted to Rs. 87,902 against Rs. 1,04,945 in the previous year.

D.—The Press Report Office.

Personnel

85. The Curator of Libraries continued to work as Press Reporter

The nature of work in the Press Report Office.

86. Although the Press Report Office is created mainly with a view to exercise censorship over the Baroda press, it also keeps the Government and the State departments informed of views, proposals and criticisms of the local as well as of the foreign press in respect of the administration of this State.

The output of the Baroda press during the year was 9 weeklies, 1 fortnightly, 22 monthlies and 191 books and pamphlets.

52 weekly reports on topics discussed in the weeklies and periodicals, 12 monthly reports of books and 14 special reports were submitted to the Minister.

Altogether 394 topics from newspapers and periodicals were reported as against 360 of the last year, showing an increase of 34 topics. Moreover 14 objectionable topics from newspapers and periodicals were reported during the year. 114 topics relating to this State were also reported from foreign newspapers as against 206 of the last year. Comments and criticisms made in the foreign papers seem to be much more valuable, being written by disinterested men and by neutral parties.

256 cuttings from newspapers were sent to the various departments of the State to inform them about what is being written in the Press about them

34 warnings were issued to the proprietors of the presses for their negligence to observe the conditions of sections 5 and 6 of the Press Act; but no newspaper or periodical was suspended.

The tone of the Baroda Press.

87. During the year, the tone of the Baroda Press continued as before to be on the whole sane and loyal both to the Baroda and the British Governments. Its criticisms of Government measures have been generally well-balanced and induced by a sense of public duty. The columns of the newspapers have been always kept open to the general public for ventilating their grievances and making suggestions. The system of reporting and sending cuttings has been encouraging the newspapers and the public to take a greater interest in the administration of the Government. Legal, educational and municipal affairs generally engaged the attention of the editors and their correspondents much more than administrative topics. Occasionally there were comments on political subjects as well.

Presses in the Baroda State

88. In the beginning of the year altogether 28 presses were working in the whole State; 1 of the presses in the Baroda District, though it made the declaration last year, did not begin work at all. 4 new declarations for

opening presses in the Baroda District were made; 1 of these was to begin work from August 1918. Two fresh declarations were made during the year for opening presses in the Kadi District. The District Magistrate, Kadi Division, did not give permission to the third applicant, as he thought his character questionable. The proprietors of two presses—1 in Baroda District and 1 in Navsari District—closed their presses on their own account. Thus at the end of the year, out of the 35 presses under declaration, 31 presses were actually working as against 28 of the preceding year, showing an increase of 3. Amreli showed no increase, while Navsari reported the decrease of 1 press. Divided by districts, Baroda had 19, Kadi 4, Navsari 5, and Amreli 3 presses.

Newspapers and Periodicals.

89. The output of the 31 presses during the year was 9 weeklies, 1 fortnightly and 22 periodicals. Out of these, there existed 7 weeklies, 1 fortnightly and 19 periodicals as against 7 weeklies and 21 periodicals, thus showing an increase of 1 fortnightly and a decrease of 2 periodicals. 2 new declarations were made for the weeklies and 1 for the fortnightly Thus 1 (Marathi) weekly "Jagriti" in the Baroda District and 1 weekly (English-Gujrati) "Vafadar" in the Navsari District commenced their publications. The publisher of "Bag-e-Momin," which was a monthly, made a new declaration for converting it into a fortnightly, but truly speaking it was no better than a monthly being published at intervals of a month or a longer period. "The Boys' Corner", which had made its appearance only a year back, ceased to exist of its own accord; and so did "The Islamic News" of Amreli. 3 of the 22 periodicals ceased to exist, being not published within the required period. 1 periodical "The Brahma Bhatta" was not published at all. During the year 3 new declarations were made for periodicals—2 in the Baroda District and 1 in the Nasvari District. As the application submitted by a gentleman of the Kadi district to publish a periodical was not

according to rules, it was rejected. 2 new periodicals :—(1) "The Indian Philosophical Review" and (2) "The Cherag" commenced their publications. The publisher of the "Harshanad" was changed. In the progress of journalism among the four districts, Baroda with 5 weeklies and 11 periodicals tops all; Navsari with 2 weeklies and 3 periodicals stands second; while Amreli with 1 fortnightly and 4 periodicals comes third; and Kadi with only 1 periodical stands last.

Books published in the Baroda State.

90. The total number of books and pamphlets issued from the Baroda Press during the year was 191 as against 251 of the last year, thus showing a decrease of 60. These can be divided according to languages as follows :—

English	10	Hindi	2	Urdu-Gujarati	4
English-Gujarati	5	Sanskrit	7	Nepali	1
Gujarati	140	Sanskrit-Gujarati	2	Polyglot	4
Marathi	7	Urdu	9		

English and English-Gujrati books were mainly educational texts or helps. Only three English books were worth notice. Gujrati books were mostly of slight and ephemeral interest. Out of the total of 140 Gujrati books, one could lay his finger on only 22 as possessing some value. 5 Marathi, 3 Polyglot and 5 Sanskrit books and 1 Hindi book were important. English books and Gujrati books can be classed as follows :—

English.

Philosophy and Religion	2	Educational	4
Medical	2	Miscellaneous	2

Gujrati.

Philosophy and Religion	16	Social and Communal.	14	Drama.. . ..	8
Politics . ..	5	Educational	24	Fiction	11
Ethics	19	Music	3	Biography	3
Medical and Sanitation	4	Literature ..	2	History	1
Legal .	3	Poetry .	14	Miscellaneous	13

Conclusion

91. Judging from the number of presses, papers, periodicals and books, it seems that the high prices of paper and printing material affected the printing industry to a certain extent as is evident from the decrease in the number of printed books and pamphlets by about 60 and also some decrease in the number of periodicals, in spite of the fact that the number of presses was larger by three than their number last year. The absence of any copy-right protection continues to be partially responsible for the slow progress of the printing press industry

CHAPTER IX.

MEDICAL RELIEF AND VITAL STATISTICS.

A.—Medical Relief.

(a) PERSONNEL AND PRELIMINARY DETAILS.

Personnel, etc.

1. Dr. Clifford Mayer, M.D. (London), held the charge of the Department in addition to his Military duties throughout the year under review Dr. Sumant B. Mehta was appointed as officiating Sanitary Commissioner and Dr. A. D. Cooper reverted to the Department, for the time being, as Jail Medical Officer and Superintendent.

After a long and meritorious service of 39 years, Dr. Balabhai Maganlal retired on 10th February, 1918 : and Dr. R. N. Jadhav succeeded him as Palace Physician.

Mrs. Davies, the Lady Superintendent, State General Hospital, having resigned her appointment on 9th May 1918, the senior Nursing Sister, Miss Davison, succeeded her.

New Posts

2. An extra post of a Nursing Sister was created to be available for duty at the Palace whenever wanted. A post was also created of a Sanitary Inspector for the palaces. Three Medical Officers were taken temporarily into service to fill up various vacancies in the Department.

Number of Medical Institutions.

3. A new permanent dispensary was sanctioned for Vaso, bringing the total number of permanent institutions to 60, with the ratio of one institution to 33,880 of population. Of these, 34 institutions were inspected during the year.

Expenditure and income.

4. The total expenditure of the Department was Rs. 3,35,680, as against Rs. 3,15,540 in 1916-17 and Rs. 3,02,952 in 1915-16. The increase was due to the high prices of medicines, instruments and diets. The total income adjusted to the credit of the Department was Rs. 37,595, as against Rs. 52,204 and Rs. 15,900 in the two previous years.

Contributions

5. The Khangi Department contributed Rs. 16,461 for the maintenance of the Palace and Motibag Dispensaries, the Military Department Rs. 10,539 for the Military medical institutions and the Beyt Devasthan Fund provided Rs. 1,298 for the Beyt Dispensary.

Donations.

6. Donations of Rs. 1,25,000 from Mr. Nyahalchand Lalluchand of Pattan and of Rs. 50,000 from Mr. Bulakhidas Narandas of Petlad were accepted by His Highness' Government towards the erection of a General Hospital at Pattan and of a Maternity Hospital at Petlad respectively. An offer of Rs. 25,000 made by Mr. Dosabhai Maganlal Parikh of Visnagar for a Maternity Home and Zenana Dispensary at Visnagar was under consideration of Government, pending the preparation of plans and estimates.

New Institutions.

7. The Sheth Kilachand Dewchand Maternity Hospital at Pattan was still under construction. A scheme for the institution of a Maternity Home at the Jamnabai Dispensary was sanctioned.

Number of patients treated, discharged, cured, etc.

8. The total number of patients treated during the year was 4,52,668 (1,95,458 males, 83,243 females, and 1,73,967 children). Out of these, 4,48,356 were outdoor and 4,312 indoor patients. The average daily attendance of the former was 4,717·87 and of the latter, 277·25.

Of the in-patients, 2,690 were discharged cured, 1,076 were relieved or discharged otherwise, 218 died and 328 remained under treatment at the end of the year. The percentage of deaths among in-patients was 5·0 against 4·1 of the last year and 4·2 of the year before last.

The Baroda Division contributed the highest percentage as regards patients treated, *viz.*, 44, while Kadi contributed 28, Navsari 15·5 and Amreli 12·5.

Patients by caste

9. Of the Total number of patients treated, 3,61,352, were Hindus, 68,682 Mahomedans, 8,062 Parsees, and 14,572 were of other castes.

Number of operations and persons operated upon.

10. During the year under report, 27,044 surgical operations were performed on 26,687 persons with a mortality of 0·1 per cent. The mean number of surgical operations performed during the triennium was 24,881, against 19,989 in the preceding triennium. The average number of persons operated on during the triennial period of 1917-18, 1916-17 and 1915-16 was 24,697 with a mortality of 0·1 as compared with 19,308 with a mortality of 0·1 per cent. during 1914-15, 1913-14, and 1912-13.

Kinds of operations with results.

11. The removal of *tumours* and *cysts* accounted for 111 operations with no death, against 146 operations with 2 deaths in the year 1916-17.

Amputations numbered 51 with 8 deaths, as compared with 49 with 2 deaths in the year 1916-17.

Operations on the *eye* numbered 602, of which 79 were for cataract, as compared with 873 including 78 for cataract in the year 1916-17.

Vesical calculi were removed by Litholaplaxy in 9 cases against 9 in 1916-17, the percentage of mortality during the

triennial period being 2·8. *Suprapubic Lithotomy* was resorted to in 10 cases with 2 deaths, against 11 with 1 death in 1916-17. *Perineal Lithotomy* was resorted to in 1 case with no death, against 1 with no death in 1916-17

Abdominal operations, other than those for diseases peculiar to women, numbered 155 with 6 deaths, against 159 with 21 deaths in 1916-17; while those for diseases peculiar to women numbered 28 with 1 death, against 21 with 5 deaths.

Operations for the radical cure of *hernia* (including strangulated hernia) numbered 27 with 5 deaths, against 25 with 7 deaths.

Those for abscesses of *liver* numbered 6 with 2 deaths against 16 with 7 deaths in 1916-17.

There were performed 120 *obstetric operations* with 3 deaths, against 148 with 8 deaths in 1916-17. These included 6 operations for *Cæsarean section* with 1 death, against 10 with 1 death in 1916-17

Prevailing diseases

12. The most common diseases, for which the patients received medical aid at the hospitals and dispensaries during the year under report, are noted in the following table :—.

Names of Diseases	1917-18.	1916-17.
Malarial fever	80,482	77,976
Diseases of the skin	67,802	35,221
,, ,, eye	48,953	58,411
,, ,, ear	24,342	27,798
,, ,, respiratory system	19,111	20,600
Injuries	14,279	14,115
Diseases of the nervous system	10,033	10,664
,, ,, worms	9,426	11,716
Dyspepsia	10,609	11,894
Rheumatic affections	9,145	9,723
Diarrhœa	8,904	9,368
Dysentery	5,862	7,157
Venereal diseases	5,093	5,981
Diseases of the nose	1,567	1,593
Tubercular diseases	1,021	1,009

(b) The State General Hospital.

Appellation of the new hospital buildings.

13. The institution, hitherto known as the Countess of Dufferin Hospital, has been enlarged by new buildings for various groups of wards such as the Military, Maternity, Infectious, etc., and the conglomeration of all these wards and buildings was given the appellation of the State General Hospital. The name of Countess of Dufferin has been appropriately retained for the new female wards which will be located in the old Countess of Dufferin Hospital building.

Medical Staff

14. There was no change in the medical staff of the Hospital during the year.

Transfer of patients to the new hospital.

15. Female patients, surgical and medical cases were moved over to one of the wings in the new hospital building as a temporary measure, the Victoria Jubilee ward being handed over to the P. W. Department for conversion into a permanent Maternity Ward.

Attendance of patients at the Hospital

16. When plague was raging at Baroda, the attendance at the Hospital was rather slack, people avoiding the city as far as possible. At most of the seasons of the year, however, it was difficult to cope with the rush of patients, admission being often refused except in cases of urgent necessity and patients having to be discharged when hardly convalescent so as to make room for serious cases.

Work of additions and alterations to the Hospital postponed.

17. On account of the war, the building of the new Paying Patients' Ward and the necessary alterations to the Countess of Dufferin Female Wards have had to be postponed.

18. The daily average attendance of indoor and outdoor patients was 107·4 and 257·4 against 95·9 and 244·8 in the year 1916-17.

Average attendance of patients

19. The number of selected major operations performed was 281 against 358 of 1916-17.

Major operations.

20. 2,689 specimens were examined in the Bacteriological Laboratory against 1,944.

Bacteriology.

21. The net expenditure of the institution, excluding the amount for medicines, instruments, etc., was Rs. 81,956 against Rs. 81,649 in 1916-17 and Rs. 54,830 in 1915-16.

Expenditure.

(c) The Lunatic Asylum.

22. The total number of lunatics treated at the Asylum during the year was 84 against 89. Of these, 21 were discharged cured, 7 were relieved or withdrawn, 7 died and 49 remained under treatment.

Number of inmates.

23. The total expenditure in connection with the institution excluding that for medicines. etc., was Rs. 7,237 against Rs. 5,702 in 1916-17.

Expenditure.

(d) The Leper Asylum.

24. The number of lepers treated at the Asylum was 160 against 169 in 1916-17. Of these, 71 absconded, 17 died and 72 remained under treatment. Of the total number treated, 10 suffered from the Anæsthetic form and 8 from the mixed form ; 1 child was under observation.

Number of lepers treated.

25. Lepers still continue to abscond from the Asylum. The question of walling it, which was under consideration, has had to be postponed owing to the difficulty of obtaining material and the expense involved till after the war.

Work of walling the asylum.

26. The total expenditure of the Asylum during the year under report was Rs. 10,827 as against Rs. 9,738 in 1916-17.

Expenditure

(e) THE CHEMICAL LABORATORY AND THE MEDICAL STORES.

27. Dr V. M. Bhatt held the charge of the Laboratory and the Stores during the year under report.

Charge.

28. 91 medico-legal cases, involving the separate analyses of 375 different articles, were investigated, against 108 cases in 1916-17. Besides these, there were 5 cases involving the examination of 7 miscellaneous articles against 6 cases in 1916-17. Out of 43 cases (as against 54) in which human poisoning was suspected, some poison was actually detected in 21 cases, as compared to 20 during the last year.

Medico-legal cases for analysis, etc

In addition to the work described above, several preparations made in the Medical Stores, Baroda, were tested and standardised in the laboratory.

29. The total expenditure of the laboratory amounted to Rs. 2,930, against Rs. 2,020 in the year 1916-17; while the amount actually expended on the purchase of drugs, instruments, etc., came to Rs. 95,128 against Rs. 74,385 in 1916-17.

Expenditure on the laboratory and stores

30. The stock at the end of the year, at fixed medical store prices, was valued at Rs. 1,15,420 against Rs. 98,116 in 1916-17.

Valuation of stock.

(*f*) THE CENTRAL JAIL HOSPITAL.

Charge.

31. Dr. A. D. Cooper officiated as Jail Superintendent and Medical Officer.

Number of patients.

32. The total number of prisoners treated during the year was 373 against 389. All these were in-patients. Of the total treated, 332 were discharged cured, 2 relieved, 8 died, and 31 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

Rate of mortality

33. The rate of mortality among the jail population was 14·5 as compared with 5·4 of the preceding year, this high rate of mortality being due to plague.

Surgical operations

34. The total number of surgical operations performed during the year under report was 148 against 113 in the year 1916-17. Of these, 8 were major, as against 1 in 1916 -17 and 15 in 1915-16

Inspection of the Hospital.

35. The Inspector-General of Prisons paid one visit to the Jail Hospital during the year under report.

(*g*) MIDWIFERY.

City Midwives and their work.

36. During the year, an additional midwife was sanctioned for the Baroda City as an experimental measure for two years. The total number of labour cases attended to by the city midwives was 149, against 115 in 1916-17 and 218 in 1915-16.

New posts of midwives in the mofussil.

37. During the year, three new posts of midwives were created for Dwarka, Vijapur and Visnagar but owing to the difficulty of finding nurses and midwives on the present terms, the posts of Visnagar and Vijapur were lying vacant.

38. The statement given below shows the number of labour cases conducted by the midwives in their respective towns :—

Cases attended by the mofussil midwives

Towns.	Number of cases conducted.		
	1917-18.	1916-17.	1915-16.
Amreli	48	50	26
Kathore	45	45	4
Dabhoi	42	49	20
Navsari	35	36	1
Bilimora	24	39	15
Kadi	23	22	13
Vellachha	12	11	6
Mehsana	11	12	11
Petlad	10	17	6
Sidhpur	8	35	5
Pattan	7	31	8
Dwarka	2	...	....

(h) Ambulance, Nursing and Home Hygiene.

39. A series of lectures on Ambulance, Nursing and Home Hygiene was delivered by different Medical Officers and examinations were held in these subjects as usual. 175 out of 271 candidates were successful in the Ambulance examination, 17 out of 35 in Nursing and 10 out of 14 in Home Hygiene, as compared to 153 out of 240, 63 out of 89 and 49 out of 87 respectively in the preceding year. Of the total number of successful candidates 13 were ladies.

Lectures and examinations.

(i) EPIDEMICS.

Plague in the State

40. During the year under report the epidemic of plague assumed a very severe form, both in the districts and in the City of Baroda, with 30,703 attacks and 22,239 deaths. The epidemic reached its height in Baroda during the months of December and January with a daily average of about 30 attacks and 25 deaths.

Plague attacks and deaths.

41. The table below shows the number of plague attacks and deaths in different districts during the year under report as compared with two preceding years :-

	1917-18		1916-17.		1915-16	
	Attacks.	Deaths.	Attacks	Deaths	Attacks	Deaths
Baroda City .	2,893	2,374	14	13	46	31
Baroda District	9,160	6,250	227	149	77	34
Kadi " .. .	14,430	10,374	12	5	10	6
Navsari "	2,313	1,640	811	641	167	108
Amreli " .. .	1,907	1,601	10	6	3	..
Total ..	30,703	22,239	1,074	814	303	179

The percentage of deaths was 72·4 against 74·8 and 61·9 of the two preceding years respectively.

Number of towns and villages infected.

42. The number of plague-infected towns and villages was 826 against 45 and 22 during the two preceding years.

Temporary Sub-Assistant Surgeons for plague relief.

43. Sanction was accorded to engage 8 Sub-Assistant Surgeons in temporary employ on plague work but owing to the difficulty of finding men, only 4 could be engaged. One

medical officer and 4 Sub-Assistant Surgeons were placed at the disposal of the Municipality for plague relief work, the pay and allowances of 2 Sub-Assistant Surgeons being met out of Municipal funds.

Inoculations.

44. Compared to previous epidemics, it was gratifying to note that people came forward more readily for inoculation both in the city and in the districts. Out of a population of 98,410 souls in the Baroda City, a large number of whom had evacuated, 12,898 persons were inoculated; while in the Baroda district, the number of persons inoculated was 3,094, in the Kadi district it was 4,995, in Naosari 769 and in Amreli 754.

Number of Cholera cases and deaths

45. The total number of cholera cases, recorded during the year under report, was 60 against 1,935 in 1916-17 and 3,432 in 1915-16. Of these, 28 proved fatal giving a death rate of 46·6 per cent.

The epidemic made its appearance in Rajpur (Kadi) in October 1917, in Dabka and Mahomedpura (Padra) in December 1917 and in the Baroda City in January and April 1918.

B.—Vital Statistics, etc.

(a) Sanitation.

Charge.

46. Dr. Sumant B. Mehta officiated as Sanitary Commissioner up to 12th June 1918, when he proceeded on leave and Dr. Dhanjisha H. Mehta worked in his stead till the close of the year.

Duties.

47. The following are the principal duties entrusted to this officer:—

1. Annual inspection of Municipal and Vishistha Panchayat offices and supervision over sanitation in the whole *Raj*;

2. Registration of births and deaths ;

3. Vaccination :

4. Popularizing sanitation through lectures and demonstrations, and

5 Record of meteorological observations.

Work of the year.

48. The Sanitary Commissioner toured for 188 days in the districts for inspection and other work, against 178 last year ; 47 towns and 75 villages were visited, against 32 towns and 58 villages and suggestions for improvement were made to the different Municipal and Panchayat institutions

The Sanitary Commissioner accompanied the Minister, Dr. P. T. Patel, M D (London), and the Suba of Navsari to Unai (Navsari District) to discuss the development of the place so that people could take advantage of the hot water springs there

No lectures were delivered on Home Hygiene during the year, but at most places Dr. Sumant held public or private meetings and spoke to the people on sanitation, Local Self-Government and other social duties Dr. Dhanjisha lectured at Pattan, Jagudan, Sinor and Mehsana on "The Prevention of Plague and Malaria," "Village sanitation," "The necessity of studying Hygiene", the "Evils of drinking unfiltered river-water," etc.

Schools, libraries, hospitals, and other similar institutions were also visited at different places and necessary suggestions for improvement were made, where they were necessary, to the offices concerned.

(b) VITAL STATISTICS.

Number of births and deaths.

49. A comparison of births and deaths in the State during the last four years will be found below :—

Year.	Number of births.	Number of deaths	Births per mille of population	Deaths per mille of population
1914-15	62,279	46,317	30 6	22 8
1915-16	63,860	47,582	31 4	23 4
1916-17	62,778	54 205	30 9	26 7
1917-18	60,861	81,188	29·9	40 0

These figures show that there was a decrease of 1,917 births and an increase of 26,983 deaths, as compared with 1916-17. The cause of decrease in the number of births was probably due to defective registration as a result of the exodus of the people from the villages and towns owing to plague and the increase in the number of deaths was due to the severe prevalence of plague in many places in the Raj during the year

Vital percentage of males and females

50 Of the total number of births, 32.366 were of males and 28,495 of females, that is for every 100 female births 113 5 male births were registered Similarly of the total number of deaths, 41,143 were of males and 40.045 of females or for every hundred female deaths 102·7 male deaths were registered.

As a general rule, there is a higher ratio of mortality amongst males than amongst females owing to the harder struggle for existence amongst men and consequently greater occasion for exposure to the extremes of temperature, etc.

Causes of deaths.

51. Of the total number of deaths, 38,788 were due to fever, 27,460 to plague, 281 to cholera, 834 to small-pox, 1,422 to dysentery

and diarrhœa, 2,991 to cough, 376 to pneumonia, 1,303 to consumption, 597 to injuries of various kinds and accidents, and 7,136 to all other causes.

The ratios per mille of population per annum for the causes of deaths mentioned above were 19·1 for fever, 13·5 for plague, 0·1 for cholera, 0·3 for small-pox, 0·7 for dysentery and diarrhœa, 1·4 for cough, 0·1 for pneumonia, 0·6 for consumption, 0·2 for injuries of various kinds and 3·5 for all other causes.

From these figures, it will be seen that the mortality from fever predominated over that from other diseases, the reason being that the work of registration is in the hands of non-professional men, who return most deaths under the head of "fever" simply because that complaint happens to be the prominent symptom of many acute and chronic diseases.

(c) Vaccination

Vaccination compulsory in the city only

52. Vaccination was made compulsory in the city of Baroda in 1914 tentatively for three years and in the year of the report the measure was made permanent for the city; in the villages and other towns of the Raj, however, it still continues to be carried on by persuasion.

Number of persons vaccinated

53 The following table gives the number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations during the year as compared with the previous year:—

Persons	Primary vaccination.		Re-vaccination	
	1917-18	1916-17	1917-18	1916-17.
Males .	31,154	32,737	961	1,156
Females .	29,023	30,631	345	265
Total	60,177	63,368	1,306	1,421

The total operations thus amounted to 61,483 as against 64,789 in the preceding year, showing a decrease of 3,306 operations. This decrease was due to the exceptionally severe form of plague in most places in the Raj, as a result of which the people had largely evacuated the villages.

The number of successful primary vaccinations was 57,930 and the rate of protection afforded per mille of population per annum was 28·5 against 30·0 in the preceding year.

Vaccination Fees.

54. The amount realised from the fees charged for vaccinating children at their homes aggregated to Rs. 345 against Rs. 526 in the previous year.

Expenditure.

55. Total expenditure on account of vaccination during the year was Rs. 22,962 against Rs. 22,771 in the previous year and the average cost of each successful vaccine operation was Rs. 0-6-4 against Rs. 0-5-11. The increase in expenditure was chiefly due to the grant of scarcity allowance to the low-paid subordinates.

(*d*) METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

Temperature in the Baroda City.

56. There is a second class meteorological station in the Baroda City. The results of the readings showed that 102·9° F. was the maximum temperature recorded in May 1918 and 45·7° F. the minimum reached in January 1918. Barometric average monthly records were highest, 29·906, in February 1918 and lowest, 29·530, in June 1918.

Winds.

57. The prevailing winds during the greater part of the year had a south-westerly and north-easterly component. The average daily velocity of wind varied from 69 in February 1918 to 321 in June 1918 and the average daily velocity was 164 miles.

The average daily humidity was 47 against 48 in the previous year.

Highest and lowest temperatures in the State.

58. The highest temperature recorded in the year was 113° F. at Sidhpur, Kalol and Harij in the month of May 1918 and the lowest 38° F. at Attarsumba in January 1918.

Rainfall.

59. The highest rainfall was 74·89 inches at Billimora and the lowest 12·52 inches at Dwarka.

(e) MISCELLANEOUS.

60. A Central Sanitary Board was instituted with the Minister as President and the Sir Suba, the Joint Sir Suba, the Commissioner of Education, the Chief Architect, the Chief Medical Officer, the Municipal Commissioner, a representative of the Local Boards and the Sanitary Commissioner as members for the purpose of discussing all important schemes of sanitation and public hygiene relating to the whole State. The Board is invested with powers of initiation and disposal, its orders having the force of the orders of the Minister in Council with reference to matters within its scope.

61. The Vaccinators were made to attend the local medical institutions with a view to enable them to acquire cleaner methods of work.

The Times Press, Bombay—879'19